00133535

THE
ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BOMBAY
Town Hall, Bombay.

Digitized with financial assistance from
Government of Maharashtra
on 01 February, 2020

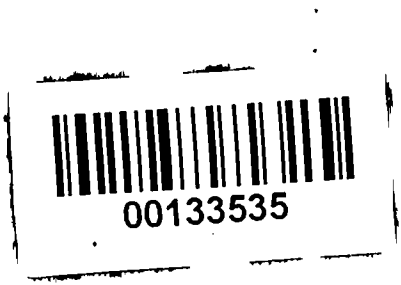
1864/65

12
1
7

133535

CONTENTS.

	Page
Members, &c. of the Chamber	i
Rules and Regulations of the Chamber	iii
Tonnage Scale at Bombay	vii
Rules and Regulations for Measurement by Callipers, upon shipments to Great Britain of Cotton, &c. from Bombay	xi
General Rates of Commission	xiii
Ship Freight Inwards	xv
General Meetings in 1864-65	xvi
ANNUAL REPORT of the Chamber	xxxv
General Remarks	xxxv
The Indian Telegraph	xxxvii
Indo-European Telegraph	xli
Mail Arrangements	xlv
The Traffic Working of the G. I. P. Railway ..	xlvii
Railway Progress	xlviii
Mildew in Piece Goods	l
Wharf Accommodation and Wharfage fees	li
A Uniform System of Weights and Measures ..	li
Improvement of Cotton Cultivation	liii
The Working of the Cotton Frauds Act	lv
Duties on Exports imposed by the Budget of the Government of India 1865	lvii
Establishment of a Chamber of Commerce at Pondicherry	lviii
Miscellaneous	lix
Revision of the Rules of the Chamber	lx
Funds of the Chamber	lxi


00133535

CONTENTS OF APPENDICES.

A.—MILDEW IN PIECE GOODS.

	Page
Report of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Question of Mildew in Piece Goods...	3
List of questions submitted to the Chamber by the Select Committee	5
Replies of Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart and Co	5
Replies of Messrs. W. Nicol and Co. ..	6
Replies of Messrs. W. and A. Graham and Co. ..	6
Replies of Messrs. Peel, Cassels and Co.	7
Replies of Messrs. Grey and Co.	8
Replies of Messrs. Finlay, Scott and Co.	8
Replies of Messrs. Wallace and Co.	9
Replies of Messrs. Framjee, Sands and Co.	10
Replies of Messrs Stoehr, Prieger and Co.	10
Replies of Messrs. Finlay, Clark and Co.	11
Replies of Messrs. Cardwell, Parsons and Co.	12
Replies of Messrs. Robinson and Co.	12
Replies of Messrs. Edward Bates and Co.	12
Replies of Messrs. C. Macdonald and Co.	13
Replies of Messrs. Legget and Co.	13
Replies of Messrs. Nasmyth and Co.	14

INTEGRITY OF BOMBAY SURVEYS ON SEA-DAMAGED PIECE GOODS.

From John L. Scott, of Finlay, Clark and Co., to Secretary to Chamber, calling attention to a letter posted up at Lloyd's, London	15
Extract of letter	16
From Secretary to Chamber, to Messrs. Campbell, Mitchell and Co., on ditto.	17
From Secretary to Chamber, to the Members of the Chamber of Commerce on ditto....	18
From Secretary to Chamber to the Committee of Underwriters, Lloyd's, London on ditto.	18
From Secretary Lloyd's to Secretary Bombay Chamber of Commerce, acknowledging receipt of letter ..	20

B.—SPEEDY LIQUIDATION OF INSOLVENT ESTATES.

	Page.
From Secretary to Chamber to Chief Secretary to Government praying for a Legislative Enactment	21
Memorial for a Legislative Enactment	21
Reply of the Secretary of Government	25
Reply to the Secretary to Government	25
Appointment of Mr. Scoble to draw up a Bill	26
From Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, conveying thanks of Government	26

C.—WORKING OF THE INDIAN TELEGRAPH.

FRAUDS IN THE INDIAN ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Members of Bombay Chamber, on the subject of Telegraph frauds	27
List of subscriptions for Telegraph Fraud Funds ...	28
From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Secy. to Government asking co-operation of Government for the discovery of the Telegraph Frauds...	29
From Officiating Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, acknowledging receipt of letter	30
From Officiating Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding para. 2 of Government letter of No. 2172, dated 24th December	30
From W. T. Gibson, to Secretary to Government, forwarding copy of a Circular from Lionel F. Lee, transmitting copies of notice to Agents and Magistrates of several Telegraph Stations	31
From Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, Calcutta, Madras and Kurrachee, intimating the offer a reward of Rs. 5,000, for the discovery of Telegraph frauds	32
From Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, Calcutta, referring to a Packet of Hand-bills, also to Madras and Kurrachee...	32
From Secretary to Bengal Chamber, to Secretary to Bombay Chamber, acknowledging receipt of letters and Hand-bills.	33
From Chairman of Chamber, at Madras, to Chairman, Bombay Chamber, respecting a reward of Rs. 5,000 ...	33
From Chairman to Chamber, Kurrachee, to Secretary to Chamber, Bombay, acknowledging receipt of letters, and the distribution of Hand-bills	34

Page

From Secretary to Chamber to S. L. Acland, Esq., Solicitor, Bombay, requesting the aid of his services in reference to Telegraph frauds 35
From S. L. Acland, to Secretary to Chamber, accepting conduct of case 35
From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Secretary to Government, (Judicial Department,) calling attention of Government to the frauds case.. 36
From Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, conveying the thanks of Government to the Committee, for bringing the delay to notice ... 37
Request for Memo. of Costs 38
Memo. of Costs 38
From Messrs. Acland, Prentis, and Bishop, to Secretary to Chamber, respecting the prosecution 38
From Secretary to Chamber, to Messrs. Acland, Prentis, and Bishop, forwarding Rupees 7,200 for disposal... ... 39
Acknowledgment. 39
From Secretary to Chamber, to Superintendent of Police, Bombay, intimating the Chamber's appreciation of Mr. Constable Mills' services ..." 40
From Secretary to Chamber to Members of the Chamber, forwarding Memo. of disbursements on account of the Telegraph Frauds 40
Memorandum of disbursements 41
List of Subscriptions 42

INEFFICIENCY OF THE TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

From Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, relative to the working of the Electric Telegraph Department... 43
From Secretary to Chamber, to Members of the Chamber, to support the opinion expressed in a letter to Government, relative to the working of the Electric Telegraph Department 43
From Secretary to Chamber, to Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, forwarding the information required ... 44

PRESS PRIVILEGES IN THE TRANSMISSION OF MESSAGES.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, complaining of Press Precedence 49

Page

From Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, asking information before laying the Chamber's letter before Government .. 51
From Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, to Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, in reply .. 52
From Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, stating that the Chamber's Complaint had been forwarded to Government of India 52
From Under Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, forwarding copy of letter from the Under Secretary to Government of India .. 53
Copy of letter 53
From Secretary to Chamber, to Chief Secretary to Government, in reply... 54

D.—INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.

From Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, to Julius Reuter, Esq., London, concerning messages via Persian Gulf ... 55
From Julius Reuter, Esq., London, in reply with copy of letter 57
Copy of Letter 58
From Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, to Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, asking information about Persian Gulf line 58
From Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding Telegram rates... ... 60
From Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, communicating principal correspondence on the subject of delay in opening the Indo-European Telegraph 61
From Secretary to Chamber to Secretary to Government, Bombay, acknowledging receipt of letter respecting arrangements for Telegraphic communication with England *via* Persian Gulf. 62
From Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, reporting inquiry as to working of line ... 63
From Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, reporting on the working of the line ... 63

Page

Copy of letter 64
From Secretary to Chamber, to officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, requesting to be informed whether Government had received any Telegraphic communication from London, *via*. Constantinople, Bagdad and Persian Gulf 66
Reply of Acting Secretary to Government... ... 67
Copy of Telegram from Secretary of State, London, to Governor of Bombay, congratulating him on the successful completion of the Indo-European Telegraph... 68
From Secretary to Chamber, to Director Mekran sub-Marine Telegraph, requesting particulars in respect to receipt of Telegrams of Indo-European Telegraph from London at Kurrachee 68
From Director Mekran sub-Marine Telegraph acknowledging receipt 69
From Director, Mekran sub-Marine Telegraph, to Secretary to Chamber, in reply 70
From Secretary to Chamber, to Director of Telegraphs, Bombay, requesting that the Kurrachee time might be added to all Indo-European messages. 71
Reply thereto 72
From Officiating Director of Telegraphs, Western Division, to Secretary to Chamber declining to attach the Kurrachee date to messages... - 72

NIGHT CHARGES ON INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAMS.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Government, calling attention to improper and illegal night charges... ... 73
From do. to the Officiating Director of Telegraphs on same subject 74
Reply... 76
From Director Mekran sub-Marine Telegraph, to Secretary to Government, concerning Colonel Douglas' order, to charge double-rates 77
From Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, embodying Director's letter, and Government resolution thereon 78
From Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, embodying copy of Government of India's letter 79

Page

From Under-Secretary to Government of India, to Secretary to Government, Bombay, acknowledging receipt of letter concerning night charges... 79
From Secretary to Government of India, to Secretary to Government, Bombay, noticing the several points in the communication of Messrs. Walton and Brasher .. 80

REMOVAL OF THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

From Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding copy of a communication from Director General of Telegraphs in India 82
From Director General of Telegraphs, to Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, requesting opinion of the Bombay Government, on the measure suggested by the Officiating Director General of Telegraphs Western Division 83
From Director of Telegraphs, Western Division, to Director General of Telegraphs in India, complaining of inadequacy of Salaries... 83
From Secretary to Chamber, to Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, recommending the abolition of the Telegraph Receiving Office... 84
From Under Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding Extract from the Proceedings of Government, on the subject of the removal 85
Extract 86
From Secretary to Chamber, to Secretary to Government, on the subject of removal... 87

E.—MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Postmaster General, Bombay, regarding despatch of Mails 88
From Post Master General, to Secretary to Chamber, with regard to detention of Mail Steamer... ... 91
Extracts from letter from Postmaster Bombay to Postmaster General... 94
From Secretary to Chamber, to Superintendent P. & O. Co., with regard to the despatch of Mail Steamers to Suez 95
From Superintendent P. & O. Co., to Secretary to Chamber, in reply 96

Page

From Secretary to Chamber, to Superintendent P. & O. Co, with regard to Mail arrangements 97
From Superintendent P. & O. Co., to Secretary to Chamber, on the subject of a letter box on board the Mail Steamers 98
From Secretary to Chamber, to Post Master General, Bombay, on the occasional detention of Mail Steamers, &c, &c. 98
From Post Master General, to Secretary to Chamber, in reply 102
From Director General Post Offices, to Post Master, Bombay, in reply 104
From Secretary to Chamber, to Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, in support of a Memorial praying for the despatch of a Weekly Mail from India to England 105
Memorial 106
From Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, acknowledging receipt .. 108

F.—TRAFFIC WOKING ON THE G. I. P, RAILWAY.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Secretary to Government, Railway Department Bombay, on the working of the Goods Traffic on the G. I. P. Railway 109
From Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, in reply... 113

G.—RAILWAY PROGRESS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

From Secretary to Chamber to Agent, G. I. P. Railway on the progress of the Company's works, &c.... 117
From Secretary to Agent, to Secretary to Chamber, acknowledging receipt of letter 118
From Agent G. I. P. Railway, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding progress report of the G. I. P. Railway, during the year ending 30th June 1865 118
From Secretary to Chamber, to Managing Agent B. B. & C. I. Railway, requesting to be informed of the progress of the Company's works, &c. 119

Page

From Managing Agent B. B. & C. I. Railway, to Secretary to Chamber, in reply... 120

H—RAILWAY TERMINUS ACCOMMODATION.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Secretary to Government, on the subject of Railway Terminus accommodation ... 122
From Secretary to Government, Railway Department, to Secretary to Chamber, in reply 123

I.—WHARF ACCOMMODATION COMMITTEE AND WHARFAGE FEES.

From Commissioner of Customs, to Secretary to Chamber, requesting to be informed of Chamber's Nominee to the above Committee 126
From Officiating Under Secretary to Government, Railway Department, to Commissioner of Customs, appointing Wharfage Committee... 127
From Secretary to Chamber, to Commissioner of Customs, acknowledging receipt of above, and appointing two Nominees 128
From Chief Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding Extracts from Proceedings of Government for the information of the Chamber on the subject of Wharfage accommodation, &c. 129
Extract form the Proceedings of Government... .. 129
Table of Rates, for Goods landed at Carnac Clare and Elphinstone Bunder... 150
Scales of Fees of Victoria Bunder.. 166
Resolution of Government 167

J.—UNIFORM SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES FOR INDIA.

From Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, requesting the Chamber to nominate a gentleman to serve on the Committee 168

Page

From Officiating Secretary to Government to Commissioner of Customs forwarding the Proceeding of the Governor General in Council.. 168
Extract from Proceedings.. 169
From Secretary to Chamber, to officiating Chief Secretary to Government, nominating a gentleman to serve on the Comittee 171
From Under-Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Under-Secretary to Government of India, mentioning the names of certain gentlemen appointed to consider the question 172
Report of the Committee 175
Minutes by Members of Committee, on ditto.. .. 179

K.—IMPROVEMENT OF COTTON CULTIVATION.

From Officiating Chief Secretary, to Secretary to Chamber, on introducing Peruvian Cotton in the Province of Sind.. 188
From Commissioner in Sind, to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, on the growth of Peruvian Cotton in the different Collectorates 188
From Officiating Under-Secretary, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding further information 189
From Commissioner in Sind, to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, affording further information.. 190
From Collector of Kurrachee, to Commissioner in Sind, for ditto 191
Letter from Mr. P. E. Donaldson, to Collector of Kurrachee, forwarding particulars with regard to Peruvian Cotton seed.. 192
Letter from Mr. A. W. Hughes, to Collector of Kurrachee.. 194
From Chief Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding information in regard to the cultivation of Cotton at Booldana 195
Extract from the Proceedings of Government of Bombay.. 195
From Chief Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding letter from Dr. Forbes, on the measures adopted regarding pure American Seed 197
From Cotton Commissioner, to Chief Secretary to Government, on ditto 198
From Secretary to Chamber, to Chief Secretary to Government, acknowledging receipt... 207

Page

From Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, on the measures adopted by Dr. Forbes, for the restoration of pure American Cotton Seed .. 208
From Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, on the distribution of Cotton Seed .. 209
From Cotton Commissioner, to Secretary to Government, on ditto 209
Statement 218
From Officiating First Resident, Hydrabad Residency, to Cotton Commissioner, Dharwar, on the growth of New Orleans Cotton in Berar 219
From ditto ditto, to ditto ditto Hyderabad Assigned Districts, further trial of New Orleans Cotton in the Akola and Oomrawuttee Districts 219
Cost of Experiments 221
Memorandum by Cotton Commissioner on Cotton Fields of Nagpore 222
Chief Commissioner's Orders on the above 231
Resolution of Government on the distribution of Cotton Seed, &c.. 238
Letter from Mr. W. A. Kerr, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding sample of Sea Island Cotton 239
From Secretary to Chamber, to Manager Kandeish Farming Company, acknowledging receipt of above &c., &c. 239
Letter from Mr. Edward Gasset, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding sample of Egyptian Cotton, &c., &c. .. 240
From Secretary to Chamber, to Mr. Edward Gassett, acknowledging receipt of the above 241
From Messrs. Nicol and Co., to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding samples of Sawginned cotton 242
From Secretary to Chamber, to Messrs. W. Nicol and Co., acknowledging receipt of the above 242
From Honorary Agents Cotton Supply Association, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding samples of cotton, &c. 243
From Secretary to Chamber, to Messrs. Peel, Cassels and Co., acknowledging receipt of the above .. 243
From Inspector in Chief, Cotton Department, to Chairman Chamber of Commerce, forwarding extract of a letter from Cotton Inspector, Ahmedabad and Khaira 244
Extract 245
From Secretary to Chamber, to Inspector in Chief, Cotton Department, acknowledging receipt of the above, &c.. 246

Page

L.—THE WORKING OF THE COTTON FRAUDS ACT.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Officiating Under-Secretary to Government, enquiring whether Government intend issuing any report on the working of the Cotton Frauds Act 247
From Officiating Secretary to Government to Secretary to Chamber, in reply 248
From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Secretary to Government, requesiting to be furnished with Report. 248
From Officiating Chief Secretary, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding copy of Resolution 249
From Officiating Chief Secretary to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding printed copies of the results of the working of the Cotton Frauds Act.. 250
Extract from Proceedings of Government 251
From Secretary to Chamber, to Secretary to Government acknowledging receipt and asking for reduction of fee on Cotton bales 309
From Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, in reply 311
From Under Secretary to Government to Chamber, forwarding extract from Chief Cotton Inspector's Report.. 312
Extract 313

M.—DUTIES ON EXPORTS.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Officiating Chief Secretary, handing a Memorial from the Chamber to His Excellency the Viceroy, praying for the repeal of certain duties .. 322
Memorial from Chamber of Commerce, to the Viceroy and Governor General of India, referring to levy of Export duties 322
From Under Secretary to Government, to Secretary Chamber of Commerce, forwarding copy of letter from Government of India 324
From Under Secretary to Government, to the Officiating acknowledging receipt of Memorial 324

N.—ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT PONDICHERRY.

From President of Chamber, Pondicherry, to Chairman of the Chamber 325

Page

From Secretaryof Chamber to the President of the Chamber of Commerce, Pondicherry, in acknowledgement ... 326
From President of Chamber, Pondicherry, to Secretary to Chamber 327

MISCELLANEOUS.

Export Duty on Dyed Piece Goods.

From Commissioner of Customs, to the Chamber of Commerce, forwarding a copy of Memorandum for the opinion of the Chamber 329
Memorandum 329
From Secretary of Chamber, to Commissioner of Customs acknowledging receipt of letter and memorandum .. 330

Duties on British Goods in Persia.

From Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, to the Secretary Chamber of Commerce, forwarding a letter from the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, relative to the five per cent. duty on British Goods, &c. 333
Letter 333
From the Acting Political Resident, Persian Gulf, to His Excellency Charles Alison, C. B., referring to the above.. 334
From His Excellency C. Alison C. B. to Lieut. Col. Pelly, &c., Bushire, deciding that five per cent. duty is to be paid at the Port of Bushire.. 335
From Civil Surgeon in charge of Bushire, Presidency, to His Excellency C. Alison, C. B. referring to the above. 336
From His Excellency C. Alison C. B. to Doctor Colvill, &c. Bushire 337
Do. Do. Do. Enclosing a translation of letter from the Persian Minister 338

Statistics of the Trade of Aden.

From Chief Secretary, to the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, forwarding extracts 339

Page
Statements of the External Trade of Aden .. 340
From Secretary to Government, to Secretary Chamber, forwarding Administration Report of Aden .. 344
Statement 345

RELIEF OF APPREHENDED FAMINE AT ADEN.

From Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber requesting Chamber to suggest names for the Aden Relief Committee 348
Reply 349
From Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber forwarding copies of Telegrams for the information of the Aden Relief Committee ... 349
Copies of Telegrams 350

SAMLAJEE AND MHYJEE FAIRS.

From Political Agent Mahee Kanta, to Secretary to Government, Bombay, submitting statement of Goods offered for sale at the Samlajee Fair 350
Statement 354
From Under Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding copy of Report on the Mhyjee Fair of 1864 358
Extract from the Proceedings of Government .. 359

PETITION FOR A PIECE GOODS BAZAR.

From the Promoters of the Bombay Piece Goods Bazaar Corporation, Limited, to the Chamber, requesting their support 389
Petition of the Merchants and Dealers in Piece Goods at Bombay, to His Excellency the Governor and President in Council, Bombay 390
From Secretary to Chamber, to Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, referring to the Petition from the Piece Goods Merchants of Bombay .. 394
From Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, to Piece Goods Merchants of Bombay, acknowledging receipt of petition 394

Page

TRADE IN SANDALWOOD—MYSORE AND COORG.

From Conservator of Forests, Mysore and Coorg, to Chairman, Chamber on the subject of classifying Sandalwood .. 395
Rules for Sandalwood Auctions 397
Mode of classifying Sandalwood in the Astagram Division of Mysore 398
From Secretary to Chamber to Conservator of Forests, Mysore and Coorg, in reply 400

REGULATION FOR THE SALE OF WASTE LANDS, BOMBAY.

From Vice-President and Secretary of the Batavia Chamber of Commerce, to the President and Members of the Chamber, requesting information about the sale of Governmental Waste Lands 401
From Secretary to Chamber, to Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, informing that the Batavia and Java Chamber of Commerce had applied to Chamber for a copy of the Regulations about the disposal of Governmental Waste Lands in Bombay .. 401
From Officiating Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber in reply 402
Resolution of Government 402
From Secretary to Chamber, Bombay, to President Chamber of Commerce, Batavia, acknowledging receipt of letter, and forwarding Resolution of Bombay Government 404

FUNDS OF THE CHAMBER 405

LIST OF PAMPHLETS AND PAPERS, received by the Chamber for the year 1864-1865 406

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ESTABLISHED 22ND SEPTEMBER 1836.

List of Members.

Messrs. BATES, (E.) & Co.
" BELL (R.) MILLER & Co.
" BRICE, (A. C.) & Co.
" CAMPBELL, MITCHELL & Co.
" CARDWELL, PARSONS & Co.
" CLASSON, (H.) & Co.
" COMBER, SON & Co.
" EWART, LATHAM & Co.
" FINLAY, CLARK & Co.
" FINLAY SCOTT & Co.
" FRAMJEE, SANDS & Co.
" GADDUM & Co.
" GRAHAM (W. & A.) & Co.
" GREY & Co.
" HUSCHKE (A. H.) & Co.
" HAHN, KUHN & Co.
" KILLICK, NIXON & Co.
" KING, (G. S.) & Co.
" KNOOP & Co.
" LAWRENCE & Co.
" LEGGATT & Co.
" LYON, BROTHERS & Co.
" MACDONALD, (C.) & Co.
" MACINDOE, ROGERS & Co.
" MACNEE & Co.
" MARTIN, YOUNG & Co.
" NICOL, (W.) & Co.
" PEEL, CASSELS & Co.
" RALLI BROTHERS.
" RENNIE, SCOVELL & Co.
" RITCHIE, STEUART & Co.
Messrs. ROBINSON & Co.
" ROPER & Co.
" SASSOON, (D.) & Co.
" SEIGFRIED & Co.
" SIGG (J.) & Co.
" STEARNS, HOBART & Co.
" STOEHR, PRIEGER & Co.
" VOLKART BROTHERS.
" WADIAS, (J. N.) SONS & Co.
" WALLACE & Co.
" WATSON, BOGLE & Co.
P. & O. S. N. COMPANY.
AGRA & UNITED SERVICE BANK.
THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.
THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON AND CHINA.
THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA.
THE COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.
THE FINANCIAL ASSOCIATION OF INDIA AND CHINA, LIMITED.
THE HINDUSTAN, CHINA, & JAPAN BANK LIMITED.
THE PRESIDENCY BANK, BOMBAY, LIMITED.
ROYAL BANK OF INDIA.
SCINDE, PUNJAUB & DELHI BANK CORPORATION.
THE BOMBAY CITY BANK.

Retiring Committee.

ALEX. STEWART, Esq., *Chairman.*
A. J. HUNTER, Esq., *Deputy Chairman.*
A. HUSON, Esq.
H. MAXWELL, Esq. } *Members.*
J. SANDS, Esq.

Committee for 1865-66.

HON'BLE A. J. HUNTER, *Chairman.*
H. MAXWELL, Esq., *Deputy Chairman.*
J. SANDS, Esq.
J. BOGIE, Esq.
J. G. SMITH, Esq. } *Members.*
W. JOYNSON, Esq.
L. MAVROGORDATO, Esq.

MESSRS. WILLIAM NICOL & Co., *Treasurers.*
JAMES TAYLOR, Esq., *Secretary.*
MUCKOONDROW BHAWOO, *Head Clerk.*

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

REVISED AND ADOPTED AT A GENERAL MEETING, HELD ON THE 1ST DECEMBER, 1864.

I. That the object and duties of the Chamber shall be to encourage a friendly feeling and unanimity among commercial men on all subjects involving their common good; to promote and protect the general mercantile interests of this Presidency; to collect and classify information on all matters of general commercial interest; to obtain the removal, as far as such a society can, of all acknowledged grievances affecting merchants as a body, or mercantile interests in general; to receive and decide references on matters of usage and custom in dispute, recording such decisions for future guidance; and by this, and other means, assisting to form a code of practice for simplifying and facilitating business; to communicate with the public authorities, with similar associations in other places and with individuals, on all subjects of general mercantile interest; and to arbitrate between parties willing to refer to, and abide by the judgment of the Chamber.

II. That all persons engaged or interested in mercantile pursuits desirous of joining the Chamber, and disposed to aid in carrying into effect the objects of the same, shall be admitted Members by the vote of a majority, of not less than two-thirds of those voting at a General Meeting, as provided for in Rule III.

III. That one-fourth of the firms constituting the Chamber shall be held sufficient to form any General Meeting when the same has been regularly called together,—one partner representing a firm; but two or more partners of one firm being present, only to count as one Member of the Chamber. That seven clear days' notice shall be given before any resolution proposing changes in the Rules of the Chamber be brought forward; and that such notice be given in writing to the Secretary, who shall circulate it for the information of the Members of the Chamber.

IV. That the Chamber reserves to itself the right of expulsion in case of need, to be decided at a General Meeting by a majority of three-fourths of the Members present at such General Meeting duly convened.

V. The subscription of each firm, or Member of the Chamber, shall be Rupees 25 per month.

VI. That the affairs and funds of the Association be managed by a Committee of seven Members, consisting of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Chamber, and five Members, who shall be elected annually at a General Meeting of the Chamber in the month of September and shall remain in office for one year, but be re-eligible on expiration of office. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman as the case may be, to be *ex-officio* Chairman of the Committee, and in their absence the Committee to elect their own Chairman. Three to be a quorum. In the event of any Member of the Committee resigning, or declining to serve, the remaining Members of the Committee shall fill up the vacancy.

VII. The Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Members of Committee for election must be proposed at least seven days before the General Meeting to be convened for the purpose of elections, and their names be published in the rooms of the Chamber for that period and by circular. No two Members of one firm shall be on the Committee at the same time.

VIII. That all questions before the Committee shall be decided by a majority, the Chairman having a second or casting vote in case of an equality of votes.

IX. That the Committee shall meet on Friday, or on such other day as may be found by them most convenient of every week, to receive and dispose of all communications and references, and to take under their consideration, generally, all matters embraced in the objects of the Chamber; and that their proceedings be laid on the table for the inspection of all Members, subject to such regulations as they may make.

X. That General Meetings of the Chamber be held quarterly for the purpose of discussing any measures of public interest which may arise, and that in the interval between the Meetings, the Committee of the Chamber be entrusted with the selection of subjects for discussion at those meetings, and give notice of the same to the Members beforehand. That a special General Meeting shall be called by the Chairman, or by his order, seven days after the receipt of a requisition from any three firms—Members of the Chamber; but that a majority of firms represented by one or more Members from each firm, being Members of the Chamber be required to constitute such General Meeting, and that the Annual General Meeting shall be held in the Month of September, on such day as the Committee for the time being shall direct; such Meeting to be convened on a seven days' notice. That all General Meetings of the Chamber shall be advertised in the Newspapers.

XI. That the Committee be authorised to provide suitable accommodation for the meeting of the Chamber; to pay all expenses of the establishment; and to control, generally, the management of the affairs of the Chamber.

XII. That all monies or funds of the Chamber, as received, be paid into the hands of the Treasurer or Treasurers for the time being, and that the same be available by cheques signed by the Chairman, or in his absence by the Acting Chairman for the time being, and by one other Member of the Committee.

XIII. That a Secretary be appointed by a majority of Members, in such way as the Committee for the time being may point out; that it shall be the duty of such Secretary to keep the records and accounts of the Chamber, to collect

subscriptions, handing the same over to the Treasurer, to conduct correspondence, and to act generally under the directions of the Committee.

XIV. That all the proceedings of the Committee be subject to approval, or otherwise, of General Meetings, duly convened.

XV. That any stranger engaged or interested in mercantile pursuits, visiting the Presidency, may be introduced as a visitor by any Member of the Chamber inserting his name in a book to be kept for that purpose; but that a residence of two months shall subject him to the rule for the admission of Members.

XVI. *Honorary Members.*—Gentlemen distinguished for public services or eminent in commerce and manufactures, may be elected Honorary Members of the Chamber, and as such shall be exempted from paying subscriptions.

XVII. That an Annual Report of the proceedings be made, and copies sent to the similar associations in India, China, and elsewhere.

XVIII. That the foregoing Rules be added to, or altered, only by a majority of Members of the Chamber.

XIX. That the firms whose signatures are attached be considered as acknowledging the "Bombay Chamber of Commerce," as now constituted, to represent their public and united interests.

XX. That the foregoing Rules be copied into a book, to be kept with the records of the Chamber, and be signed by all the Members, and that copies be printed and delivered to each firm.

TONNAGE SCALE AT BOMBAY.

At a General Meeting of Merchants, held in the Offices of the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, on the 6th June, 1856, convened by Circular, under the direction of the Committee of the Chamber, William Forsyth Hunter, Esq., Chairman of the Chamber, in the Chair—it was proposed by Henry Scott, Esq., of Messrs. Finlay, Scott, and Co., seconded by John Campbell, Esq., of Messrs. Campbell, Mitchell, and Co., and unanimously carried,—"That from and after the 1st January, 1857, the following amended Scale be taken to regulate the Trade from Bombay and the Malabar Coast to the United Kingdom, in the absence of Special Agreement to the contrary:—

Articles.	To the Ton.
Aloes, in kegs	16 cwt.
Alum, in bags	20 do.
Annato, in cases	50 feet.
Apparel	do.
Arrowroot, in cases	do.
Assafœtida, in cases	do.
Barilla	20 cwt.
Bees'-wax, in cases	50 feet.
Betelnut, in bags	16 cwt.
Blackwood, in straight square logs	50 feet.
Do. otherwise	20 cwt.
Books	50 feet.
Borax, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	20 cwt.
Bullion	per cent.
Camphor, in cases	50 feet.
Canes, Rattans, in bundles	16 cwt.
Cardamoms, in bundles	50 feet.
Cassia Lignea, Fistula, and Buds	do.

ARTICLES (continued).	To the Ton.
Chassum	10 cwt.
China Root, in cases	50 feet.
Cigars	do.
Cinnamon, in bales	6 cwt.
Do. in cases	50 feet.
Cloves in cases	do.
Do. in bags or frazils	10 cwt.
Coals	20 do.
Cocoa, in bags	12 do.
Coculus Indicus, in bags	16 do.
Coffee, in cases	50 feet.
Do. in bags or frazils..	16 cwt.
Coir, in bales	50 feet.
Do. in bundles or loose	6 cwt.
Do. Rope, in coils	8 do.
Colocynth, in cases	50 feet.
Colombo Root, in bags	14 cwt.
Copra, in robins	12 do.
Coral, Rough (not Specimen), in bags	20 do.
Cotton, in bales	50 feet.
Cowries, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	20 cwt.
Cubebs	12 do.
Cummin Seed, in cases	50 feet.
Cutch or Terra Japonica, in bags or baskets, unscrewed.	16 cwt.
Dates, wet	20 do.
Do. dry	16 do.
Dragon's Blood, in cases	50 feet.
Ebony, square and straight	do.
Do. otherwise..	20 cwt.
Elephant's Teeth, in cases..	50 feet.
Do. in bundles	18 cwt.
Do. loose	20 do.
Furniture	50 feet.
Galingals	12 cwt.
Galls, in bags	16 do.
Galls, in cases	50 feet.
Ginger, dry, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	12 cwt.
Gram..	20 do.
Ground Nuts, shelled	16 cwt.
Gums of all kinds, in cases..	50 feet.
Gum Olibanum, in bags	16 cwt.
Hurtall, in cases	50 feet.
Hemp, in screwed bales	do.
Do. loose or in bundles..	7 cwt.
Hides and Skins in screwed bales	50 feet.
Do. loose and in small bundles	12 cwt.
Horns, Buffalo and Cow, loose	16 cwt.

ARTICLES (continued.)	To the Ton.
Horns, Deer, loose	8 cwt.
Horn Tips, of any kind	16 do.
Indigo, in cases	50 feet.
Jackwood	do.
Lac Dye, in shells or cases	do.
Linseed, in bags	18 cwt.
Mace, in cases	50 feet.
Mother-o'-Pearl, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	20 cwt.
Munjeet or Madder Root, in cases or bales	50 feet.
Do. in bundles or bags.. ..	12 cwt.
Musk, in cases	50 feet.
Myrabolams in bags	16 cwt.
Nutmegs, in cases	50 feet.
Nux Vomica, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	16 cwt.
Oil of any kind, in casks	210 im. gals
Oil Seeds, Teel, Rape Mustard, Khorassan, and Castor.	17 cwt.
Opium	per chest.
Paddy, in bags	16 cwt.
Pepper, in bags	do.
Pimento	14 do.
Plumbago, in bags.	20 do.
Rattans, in bundles	16 do.
Do. Ground	do.
Red Wood	do.
Rhubarb, in cases	50 feet.
Rice, in bags	20 cwt.
Safflower, in cases	50 feet.
Do. in screwed bales	do.
Safflower in bags	10 cwt.
Sago, in cases	50 feet.
Sal Ammoniac, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	18 cwt.
Saltpetre	20 do.
Sandal and Sapan Wood	16 do.
Sealing-Wax, in cases	50 feet.
Senna, in bags	6 cwt.
Do. in bales	50 feet.
Shells, Rough, in bags	20 cwt.
Silk, in bales	10 do.
Do. in cases	50 feet.
Soap, in cases	do.
Sugar, in bags	20 cwt.
Talc	do.
Tallow	50 feet.
Tamarinds	18 cwt.
Tea, in chests	50 feet.

ARTICLES (continued).	To the Ton.
Timber, Teak, Square Planks and Poon	50 feet.
Do. Round, one-fifth off.	
Tobacco in bales..	50 feet.
Tortoise Shells, in chests	do.
Turmeric, in bags	13 cwt.
Tutenague	20 do.
Unrated Wood	14 do.
Whangees (*vide* Canes)	16 do.
Wheat	20 do.
Wines and Spirits, in casks.	50 feet.
Do. in cases.	do.
Wool, in screwed bales	do.
Zedoary..	20 cwt.

*** The Standard Ton at Bombay for Measurement Goods shall be taken at 50 cubic feet."

Proposed by James Fleming, Esq., of Messrs. Wm. Nicol and Co., and seconded by William Trevor Roper, Esq., of Messrs. Lawrence and Co., and carried unanimously,— "That the Freight on Oil be paid on the full gauge of the Cask, ascertained at the port of discharge."

Proposed by Thomas Stock Cowie, Esq., of Messrs. Remington and Co., and seconded by John Parsons, Esq., of Messrs. Cardwell, Parsons, and Co., and carried unanimously, —"That when Freight is payable on weight, the same is to be on the Nett Weight delivered."

(Signed) W. F. HUNTER,

Chairman.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE MEASUREMENT, BY CALLIPERS UPON SHIPMENTS TO GREAT BRITAIN, OF COTTON, WOOL, HEMP, AND OTHER SCREWED AND PRESSED BALES AT THIS PORT.

I. That Callipers shall from time to time be submitted to the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and, if found correct, shall be branded with a Stamp bearing the name of the Chamber, to indicate the same.

II. That if, from use or otherwise, any Callipers should get out of order and be objected to, the party objecting shall send the Callipers to the Chamber for examination; and should the objection be valid, the Chamber stamp shall be defaced by the Secretary; if, however, the objection is found to be groundless, the Secretary shall give a note to that effect, and the party objecting shall be bound by his decision.

III. That any Callipers found incorrect, and on which the Stamp has been defaced, may be re-stamped after adjustment.

IV. That no measurements shall be held good, except such as are taken by Callipers bearing the Chamber's Stamp.

V. That Cotton, Hemp, Wool, and other screwed bales, shall be measured as follows, namely: the greatest length to be first ascertained, and then the Bale to be set on either end, as the Shipmaster may wish, and cross measurements to be taken at top over the lashings, excepting the knots, and as near the centre of the bale as possible. That an average of 100 bales be struck by ascertaining the actual measurement of any 10 bales, and proportionately, the Shipper selecting and measuring one-half and the Shipmaster

the other half; should, however, any dispute or difficulty arise in the selection of bales, either party to have the option of measuring the whole quantity.

VI. That all produce subject to measurement be measured within the day on which it has been ordered to be screwed, provided the order has been given by the Shipmaster or Agents of the Vessel; and that from 1st June to 15th October the same be measured at the Screws; during the remainder of the year, if required, on the Bunder, weather permitting. No Cotton, Wool, or other goods, to be measured, until a Custom House Pass has been obtained for the same.

VII. That, in the event of the Shipmaster not attending to measure at such hour as may have been appointed by him, the Agent or Agents of the Ship to empower a person to attend on his behalf, whose sanction to the measurement shall be binding upon the Shipmaster.

GENERAL RATES OF COMMISSION.

Table of General Rates of Commission chargeable in Bombay, as revised by the Chamber of Commerce, and confirmed at a General Meeting, held on the 11th February 1843.

		Per cent
1,	On procuring freight... ... ... Brokerage, when actually incurred, shall be considered a legitimate charge in ships' accounts.	5
2,	On collecting freight...	2½
3,	On tendering a vessel (if accepted) for the conveyance of troops; on the amount of the charter party...	5
4,	On shipping goods of every description, on which no commission for the purchase has been charged.	2½
5,	On shipping treasure, bullion, and jewellery... ...	1
6,	On ship's disbursements when in funds	1
7,	On ship's disbursements when not in funds... ...	2½
8,	On account of passage money, whether the same passes through the Agent's hands or not... ...	2½
9,	On effecting insurance...	0½
10,	On settling insurance losses, whether partial or total, also on procuring return of premium, exclusive of commission on receipt of cash... ...	2½
11,	On the sale or purchase of goods of all denominations (except as under)	5
12,	On purchases of all kinds with the proceeds of goods sold, and on which a commission of 5 per cent, has been previously charged...	2½
13,	On the sale or purchase of ships, houses, and lands, of opium, and of diamonds, pearls, and jewellery of all descriptions...	2½
14,	On the sale or purchase of treasure or bullion... ...	1
15,	On the sale or purchase of cattle	5½

		Per cent.
16,	On goods consigned which are disposed of by outcry or sent to a shop, on net proceeds...	5
17.	On goods consigned, and afterwards withdrawn ; invoice cost	2½
18,	On guaranteeing the responsibility of person to whom goods are sold, on the amount of scale.....	2½
19,	On attending the delivery of contract goods to the Company or individuals	2½
20,	On collecting house-rent	2½
21,	On sale or purchase of private bills of exchange...	1
22,	On effecting remittances by bills of exchange ...	1
23,	On taking up at interest bills from the Company, exclusive of one per cent. on remitting... ...	1
24,	On exchanging Company's securities of all descriptions, or investing money therein and on transferring Government paper from one constituent to another	½
25,	On surrendering or depositing in the Treasury, Company's securities of all descriptions	1½
26,	On procuring money on respondentia or on loan...	2
27,	On recovering of bonds, or of bills for absentees, over-due at the time of their being placed in the possession of the Agent	2
28,	On debts when a process at law by arbitration is necessary	2½
29,	On debts when recovered by such means ...	5
30,	On managing the affairs of the estate for an executor or administrator	5
31,	On recovering funds from a bankrupt estate ...	2½
32,	On guaranteeing bills, bonds, or debts in general, by endorsement or otherwise	2½
33,	On bills of exchange returned noted or protested ...	1
34,	On granting and cashing letters of credit ...	2
35,	On becoming security to Government or public bodies in any case	2½
36,	On depositing Government paper as security for constituents	1
37,	On receipt or payment, at the option of the Agent, of all monies not arising from proceeds of goods on which commission has been previously charged.	1
38,	In all cases where the debtor side of the account exceeds the creditor side, including the balance of interest, commission to be charged at the rate of...	1

SHIP FREIGHT INWARDS.

WITH reference to the payment of Inward Freight at Bombay when stated in Sterling, we, the undersigned Merchants, do hereby agree, that for the future, all such Freight falling due under Bills of Lading dated on or after the 1st November next, shall (in the absence of Special Agreement, *or when stated to be payable at the current rate of Exchange)* be paid and received by us at the rate of Two Shillings per Rupee.

It is understood that the Agreement dated February 1849 shall continue to regulate the payment of all Freights falling due under Bills of Lading dated previous to 31st October next.

(Signed) FORBES & Co.
„ REMINGTON & Co.
„ LECKIE & Co.
„ LEGGATT, MCKENZIE & Co.
„ PEEL, CASSELS & Co.
„ FINLAY, SCOTT & Co.
„ LAWRENCE & Co.
„ A. H. HUSCHKE & Co.
„ DIROM, HUNTER & Co.
„ STEVENS BROTHERS.
„ G. PERRY & Co.
„ W. LANGLOIS, A. LEROYS & Co.
„ ROBERT STRONG & Co.
„ EDWARD BATES & Co.
„ GREY & Co,
„ VINAY, FILS & Co.
„ HEYCOCK & Co.
„ WILLIAM MCHAFFIE & Co.
„ HASTINGS, HICKS, SIM & Co.

(Signed) VOLKART BROTHERS.
„ RENNIE, SCOVELL & Co.
„ LYON BROTHERS & Co.
„ WM. NICOL & Co.
„ MARTIN, YOUNG & Co.
„ RITCHIE, STEUART and Co.
„ MACINDOE, ROGERS and Co.
„ CARDWELL, PARSONS & Co.
„ W. & A. GRAHAM & Co.
„ ROBERT FRITH & Co.
„ WALLACE & Co.
„ MCCULLOCH & Co.
„ EWART, LATHAM & Co.
„ CAMPBELL, MITCHELL & Co.
„ W. C. SILLAR & Co.
„ KILLICK, NIXON & Co.
„ GEORGE POLLEXFEN & Co.
„ T. R. RICHMOND.

Bombay, August 1858.

GENERAL MEETINGS IN 1864-65.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Thursday the 1st December 1864, at 3 P. M., for the consideration of the subjects specified in the undermentioned Circular.

Present,—

A. C. Gumpert, Esq., *Chairman*, in the Chair.

Alex. Stewart, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

A. J. Hunter, Esq.,	C. Macdonald, Esq.,
Hamilton Maxwell, Esq.,	H. Sommerville, Esq.,
Arthur Huson, Esq.,	T. Bradley, Esq.,
John Fleming, Esq.,	J. Moore, Esq,
R. McIlwraith, Esq.,	J. Bogie, Esq.,
Andrew Grant, Esq.,	E. Pennell, Esq.,
J. L. Scott, Esq.,	W. Cooper, Esq.,
J. Sands, Esq.,	F. Vix, Esq.,
A. C. Brice, Esq.,	H. DeCloset, Esq.,
Captain Black,	R. Ahlers, Esq.,
W. Joynson, Esq.,	J. Bevis, Esq.,
J. Hurst, Esq.,	R. T. Crossley, Esq.

James Taylor, Secretary.

The following circular convening the Meeting and stating its objects was read :—

To the MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
BOMBAY.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to inform you, that a General Meeting of the Chamber will be held on Thursday the 1st proximo at 3 P.M.

The following firms will be proposed for admission as Members of the Chamber :—

1. Messrs. Knoop and Co., proposed by A. C. Gumpert Esq., Chairman, seconded by Alex. Stewart, Esq. Deputy Chairman.

2. Messrs. Hahn Kuhn and Co., proposed by A. C. Gumpert Esq., Chairman, seconded by F. Vix, Esq., of Messrs. Jules Seigfreid and Co.
3. The Bombay City Bank (Limited) proposed by R. Ahlers, Esq., of Messrs. Volkart Brothers, seconded by Andrew Grant, Esq., of Messrs. Campbell, Mitchell and Co.

The following subjects will also be brought before the Meeting by the Committee :—

1.—The Revision of the Rules of the Chamber.

2.—The Railway Terminus and Traffic Questions.

3.—A proposal for an Exchange Building.

4.—Mail arrangements.

5.—Proposal by a Member, that Standard samples of Cotton be kept at the Chamber of Commerce.

The attendance of Members is particularly requested.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient. Servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR.

Secretary.

Bombay, 24th November 1864.

The following Firms were duly ballotted for and admitted Members of the Chamber :—

Messrs. Knoop & Co. proposed by A. C. Gumpert, Esq., Chairman, seconded by Alex. Stewart, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

Messrs. Hahn Kuhn & Co. proposed by A. C. Gumpert, Esq., Chairman, seconded by F. Vix, Esq., of Messrs. Jules Seigfried & Co.

The Bombay City Bank (Limited) proposed by R. Ahlers, Esq., of Messrs. Volkart Brothers, seconded by Andrew Grant, Esq., of Messrs. Campbell, Mitchell & Co.

The Chairman then introduced the subject of the revision of the rules of the Chamber and stated the alterations the Committee thought it expedient to propose.

The Committee proposed in reference to rule V. as it then

stood to levy in future an entrance fee of Rs. 200 from new Members, as the present funds of the Chamber were not adequate to meet the current expenses.

An amendent on this proposition was moved by John Fleming, Esq. seconded by Andrew Grant, Esq. to the affect tha the current expenses of the Chamber would be best met by raising the monthly subscription, and it was accordingly moved and carried by a large majority, that the monthly subscription be raised from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 per month.

The Committee proposed an alteration in the number of Members composing the Committee of Management, and also in the mode of election. It was proposed that the number in future should be seven, instead of five as at present, and after considerable discussion the recommendation was agreed to.

The whole of the rules having been gone through and various alterations and verbal arrangements proposed and agreed to :—

It was unanimously resolved that the rules as now altered be adopted as the rules of the Chamber, and printed and circulated accordingly. The alteration in the amount of subscription to have effect from January 1865.

The Chairman next introduced the subject of Railway Terminus accommodation and after detailing the past proceedings of the Chamber in the matter, which led to a very animated discussion :—

It was moved by W. Cooper, Esq., seconded by Andrew Grant, Esq., and carried unanimously :—

"That it is with surprise and regret that the Chamber now learn that the representation made to the Government in March last, upon the question of Railway Terminus accommodation in Bombay still remains unanswered, and so far as can be ascertained no effort is being made to lessen the evils caused by the almost intolerable nuisance and insufferable annoyance of the Railway crossing all the Bunders on a level, causing a deadlock in the great thoroughfares for carriage of merchandise between the Bunders and the native town for more than half the working-day. That a further representation be made to Government upon this most important question, nd it is hoped that if it is not practicable for Govern-

ment to change the site of the proposed Passenger Terminus from Grant Road to Colaba, that at least His Excellency in Council will take measures for the Railway being taken into Moody Bay on a high level, or provide a sufficient number of bridges, and so avert the disatrous consequences which the present system of level crossings are calculated to cause to the trade of the Port."

In consequence of the lateness of the hour and the impossibility of getting through at the present meeting, the whole of the business before the Chamber—the Chairman proposed to take up the proposal for an Exchange Building which had been laid before the Chamber:—

It was then on the motion of John Fleming, Esq., unanimously resolved,—"That in the opinion of the Chamber, European Merchants in Bombay are not likely to abandon their accustomed mode of transacting business; and therefore the Chamber as a body is not interested in the scheme for a proposed Exchange Building which has been brought before it."

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting then adjourned until Thursday next at 3 P.M. to dispose of the remaining business.

AN ADJOURNED GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Thursday the 8th December 1864 at 3 P.M. for the purpose of considering the business not taken up at the meeting held on the 1st idem.

Present—

A. C. Gumpert, Esq., *Chairman*, in the Chair.

Alex. Stewart, Esq., Deputy Chairman.	C. Macdonald, Esq.,
J. Sands, Esq.,	J. Hurst, Esq.,
A. J. Hunter, Esq.,	A. Huson, Esq.,
T. Bradley, Esq.,	F. Vix, Esq.,
H. Somerville, Esq.,	H. De Closet, Esq.,
A. C. Brice, Esq.,	R. Ahlers, Esq.,
W. Cooper, Esq.,	E. Pennell, Esq.,
Captain Thomas Black,	R. L. Tracey, Esq.,
Gavin Steel, Esq.,	J. E. Grimm, Esq.,
	H. Maxwell, Esq.,

James Taylor, Secretary.

The Circular convening the Meeting having been read,

The Chairman called upon the Secretary to read the Correspondence that had taken place between the Chamber and the Government on the Railway Traffic question, which having been done, and after a statement on the subject by the Chairman :—

The following resolution was proposed by A. J. Hunter, Esq., seconded by Alex. Stewart, Esq., and carried unanimously :—

"That the explanation afforded by the Government with regard to the serious defects complained of in the management of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway is unsatisfactory.

"That the experience of the last six months shows that the vague promises of improvement have in no way been realized. The double line to the foot of the Thull Ghaut has not so far as the Chamber has ascertained been sanctioned, and the continued irregularity in the working of the Trains and serious delay, irregularity and loss in dealing with the Traffic, calls for a most emphatic protest from the Chamber against so serious a neglect of the public interests and convenience, and that a representation to this effect be made to Government."

The Chairman next brought forward the question of Mail arrangements, and the Secretary read a Correspondence on the subject between the Committee, the Post Master General, and the P. and O. Company.

After a preliminary statement on the subject, the Chairman proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Gavin Steel, Esq.

"That in the opinion of this Meeting the convenience and interests of the Mercantile Community will be best served by closing the Overland Mail at 4 P.M. and after packets at 5 P.M. on the 13th and 27th of every month and despatching the Mail Steamers by sunset on those dates."

An amendment on the above resolution was moved by John Hurst, Esq., seconded by John Sands, Esq.—

"That no alteration should be made in the hour of the departure of the English Overland Mail, and that the existing arrangements should be adhered to"—which, on being put to the meeting, was lost, and the resolution proposed by the Chairman carried by a majority of 14 to 5.

A proposition for keeping samples of Cotton in the Chamber of Commerce was then introduced by the reading of a letter from Mr. Vix, but after some discussion the proposition was withdrawn.

The whole of the business having been disposed of the meeting after a vote of thanks to the Chairman, was dissolved.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Thursday the 16th March 1865 at 3 P. M., for the consideration of the business specified in the Circular herewith subjoined. The following Members were present:—

A. C. Gumpert, Esq., *Chairman*, in the Chair.

Alex. Stewart, Esq., Deputy Chairman,
A. J. Hunter, Esq.,
A. Huson, Esq.,
P. Adams, Esq.,
A. C. Brice, Esq.,
H. Brooke, Esq.,
T. R. Booth, Esq.,
A. E. Ashley, Esq.,
E. Pennell, Esq.,
W. Joynson, Esq.,
J. Hurst, Esq.,
L. H Boult, Esq.,
W. F. Stearns, Esq.,
J. E. Grimm, Esq.,
J. Bogie, Esq.,
Andrew Grant, Esq.,
A. D. Grant, Esq.,
J. L. Scott, Esq.,
John Sands, Esq.,
Wm Cooper, Esq.,
E. Parker, Esq.,
J. M. Somerville, Esq.,
J. Bradley, Esq.,
C. Macdonald, Esq.,
— Sybrand, Esq.,
L. Mavrocordato, Esq.,
P. Chrystall, Esq.,
G. Ketteridge, Esq.,
A. Oswald, Esq.,
Nowrojee Manockjee Wadia,

James Taylor, Secretary.

The Minutes of the General Meeting held on 1st December last, and the adjourned General Meeting on 8th idem having been read and confirmed, the Secretary read the following Circulars convening and stating the business of the present Meeting:—

To the MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
BOMBAY.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed by the Committee of the chamber of Commerce to inform you, that a General Meeting of the Chamber will be held on Thursday the 16th instant, at 3

P.M., when the following subjects will be brought before the Members by the Committee :—

1. Correspondence with Government on Railway and other questions.
2. Surveys of damaged Goods.
3. Mildew in Piece Goods.
4. The working of the Cotton Frauds Act.

The attendance of Members is particularly requested.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant.
(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 7th March 1865.

To the MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
BOMBAY.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed by the Committee to inform you that the following additional business will be brought before the Meeting of the Chamber to be held to-morrow at 3 P.M.

1. Ballot for Messrs. Ward and Warland and Co., proposed by W. F. Stearns, Esq., of Messrs. Stearns, Hobart and Co., seconded by A. Stewart, Esq., of Messrs. Finlay, Scott and Co.
2. Proposition by a Member—"That all the Members should agree to give and require certain periods of notice from the clerks in their Establishments and take on no one within such period of notice."
3. Presentation of the testimonial from the Members of the Chamber to Mr. Brooke, late Secretary.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 15th March 1865.

Messrs. Ward and Warland were, after a ballot, duly admitted Members of the Chamber.

The Chairman presented to Mr. Brooke, the late Secretary, the testimonial subscribed for by the Members of the Chamber which bore the following inscription :—

"Presented to Henry Brooke, Esq., by the Members of "the Bombay Chamber of Commerce in token of their appre- "ciation of the zeal and ability with which he conducted the "duties of Secretary to the Chamber from 20th June 1859 "to 30th September 1864."

Mr. Brooke returned his best thanks to the Members of the Chamber for the testimonial.

The Chairman after some preliminary remarks, detailing the proceedings of the Committee in reference to the resolutions passed at the General Meetings of the 1st and 8th December in reference to the Railway Traffic and Terminus questions, called upon the Secretary to read the correspondence that had taken place on these subjects with Government, which was done, and the correspondence laid on the table and approved.

The Chairman next called the attention of the Meeting to a subject which had been previously brought to the notice of Members, by a Circular from the Committee in reference to the integrity and good faith of the surveys held on damaged piece goods in Bombay, which had been impugned in a letter from Bombay, dated 28th October 1864, and posted at Lloyds. After detailing the various steps taken by the Committee to investigate the subject, when it was formally laid before them in a letter to the Secretary from a Member of the Chamber, the Chairman called upon the Secretary to read the correspondence referring to the subject :—

1st. A letter from John L. Scott, Esq., to the Secretary of the Chamber, handing up a printed copy of the extract posted at Lloyds, requesting the same to be laid before the Committee for their consideration.

2nd. A Circular letter on the subject from the Committee to the Members of the Chamber.

3rd. A letter from the Committee of the Chamber to the Committee of underwriters at Lloyds.

These papers having been read: It was moved by J. Hurst, Esq., of the Firm of Messrs. Peel, Cassels, & Co., seconded by John Sands, Esq., of Messrs. Framjee, Sands & Co. :—

"That this Meeting in reference to the correspondence now read—approve of the course taken by the Committee in vindication of the character of Bombay Merchants."

After a full expression of opinion on the subject by various Members, the motion was put from the Chair and carried unanimously.

With a view to introducing a better practice than that at present followed by surveyors in designation of themselves in survey certificates :—

It was proposed by J. L. Scott, Esq., seconded by W. Joynson, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"that this Meeting recommends that in all future surveys held in Bombay, it be required that surveyors set forth in their certificates their designation, as for example A. B. partner of C. D. & Co. or E. F. Assistant Piece Goods Department, to G. H. & Co."

After a vote of the thanks to the Chairman the Meeting was then adjourned till Thursday next the 23rd instant at 3 P.M.

AN ADJOURNED GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Thursday 23rd March 1865, for disposal of the business specified in the undermentioned Circular :—

PRESENT :—

A. C. Gumpert, Esq., *Chairman*, in the Chair.

Alex. Stewart, Esq., Deputy Chairman,
A. J. Hunter, Esq.,
A. Huson, Esq.,
P. Adams, Esq.,
E. Stead, Esq.,
— Havenith, Esq.,
J. L. Scott, Esq.,
J. Sands, Esq.,
A. E. Ashley, Esq.,
Nowrojee Wadia.,
O. Muller, Esq.
E. Pennell, Esq.,
P. King, Esq.,
A. Brown, Esq.,
J. Hurst, Esq.,
L. Mavrogordato, Esq.,
H. D. Closet, Esq.,
P. Crystall, Esq.,
J. E. Grimm, Esq.,
R. Ahlers, Esq.,
J. Bogie, Esq.,
A. Mackintosh, Esq.,
H. Muller, Esq.

James Taylor, Secretary.

The minutes of the last General Meeting having been read and confirmed :—

The Secretary read the following Circular convening the present Meeting and stating the business to come before it :—

To the Members of the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Gentlemen,—I am directed by the Committee to inform you that the adjourned General Meeting of the Chamber will be held on Thursday the 23rd instant at 3 P.M. to dispose of the following business :—

1. Mildew in Piece Goods.
2. The working of the Cotton Frauds Act.
3. Mail arrangements—Correspondence on the subject of the Telegraph.

The Committee request a full and punctual attendance to consider the important business still to be disposed of; and particularly invite the aid of Members in reference to the consideration of the Cotton Frauds Act—by bringing all facts before the Meeting it may be in their power, from their own experience to furnish, in illustration of its practical working.

I have the pleasure to circulate herewith copy of the Report of the Chief Inspector, Cotton Department, on the working of the Cotton Frauds Act—which Government has forwarded for the information of the Chamber.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) James Taylor,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 20th March 1865.

The Chairman introduced the question of mildew in piece goods, when, after a discussion in which several Members took part—it was proposed by J. L. Scott, Esq., seconded by J. Bogie, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"That a Special Committee, consisting of Messrs. Gumpert, Brown, Hurst, and Mavrogordato, be appointed to investigate the facts connected with the subject of mildew in piece goods and to report to the Chamber."

The question of the working of the Cotton Frauds Act was next introduced to the Meeting by the Chairman which led to an expression of opinion by various Members.

It was proposed by Alex. Stewart, Esq., Deputy Chairman, seconded by A. J. Hunter, Esq., and carried unanimously,— "that while in the opinion of the Chamber there has been less admixture of foreign substances in cotton since the Act came into operation, the equally, or even greater evil of mixing different qualities and varieties, has in no respect diminished, and that the cost of working the Act is altogether disproportionate to any advantage derived from it."

The Chairman then introduced the question of the proposed new mail arrangements between England and India, and after a short discussion, it was moved by A. Brown, Esq., seconded by J. Hurst, Esq., and carried unanimously :—

"That the Committee be requested to take such steps as may seem to them desirable to support the London Memorial to the Post Master General in favor of a weekly mail on a fixed day of the week to and from London."

The Chairman next drew attention to the state of the Telegraph in India, and the unsatisfactory manner in which it was worked, particularly the branch between Bombay and Kurrachee in connexion with the new line of Telegraph to England, via the Persian Gulf, which had recently been opened. The introduction of the subject led to some discussion upon it by various Members, but it was allowed to drop without any action being taken in the matter.

The Meeting after a vote of thanks to the Chairman was then dissolved.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Thursday the 6th April 1865 at 3 P. M. The following Members were present:—

A. C. Gumpert, Esq., *Chairman.*

Alex. Stewart, Esq., Dy Chairman,	H T Simpson, Esq.,
A. J. Hunter, Esq.,	W. Cooper, Esq.,
A. Huson, Esq.,	A. E. Ashley, Esq.,
J. Bogie, Esq.,	F. W. Sedgwick, Esq.,
J. L. Scott, Esq.,	H. Maxwell, Esq.,
A. D. Grant, Esq.,	—— Peel, Esq.,
T. R Booth, Esq.,	L Mavrogordato, Esq.,
A Mackintosh, Esq.,	J. Smith, Esq.,
—— Porter, Esq.,	E. Muller, Esq.
A. C. Brice, Esq.,	

James Taylor, Secretary

The following requisition, and the Circular convening the Meeting were read:

JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,

Secretary,
Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,

We beg to request that a Special General Meeting of the Chamber be called some day next week (say noon 6th proximo if convenient) in order that the subject of Indian Telegraphs may be thoroughly discussed in all its bearings.

We remain, Your's faithfully,

(Signed) WALLACE & Co.
" " FINLAY, CLARK & Co.
" " PEEL, CASSELS & Co.
" RALLI BROTHERS.

Bombay, 30th March 1865.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, BOMBAY.

GENTLEMEN,—With reference to the accompanying requisition, I am directed by the Committee to inform you that a Special General Meeting of the Chamber will be held on Thursday next the 6th April at 3 p.m. to consider the question of Indian Telegraphs in all it bearings.

The attendance of Members is particularly requested.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, 30th March 1865.

The Chairman having made some remarks on the working of the Indian line of Telegraph, the new line of Telegraph to Europe via the Persian Gulf, and stated the object of the present meeting:—

It was proposed by J. Bogie, Esq., seconded by A. Huson, Esq:—

"That a Committee be appointed to investigate the facts

connected with the working of the Indian Telegraph—more especially in reference to the portion of the line between Kurrachee and Bombay and report as to the necessity and the advantage of an independent sub-marine line from Kurrachee to Bombay so as to perfect Telegraph communication between Bombay and England."

The resolution having been put from the Chair was carried unanimously.

It was then proposed by A. J. Hunter, Esq., seconded by J. L. Scott, Esq :—

"That the following gentlemen be appointed a Committee to carry out the resolution :—namely, A. C. Gumpert, Esq., A. Brown, Esq., R. L. Tracey, Esq., J. Bogie, Esq., and A. C. Brice, Esq."—which was unanimously agreed to.

The Chairman then introduced the Hon'ble Lord John Hay, who addressed the meeting in reference to the probable cost of a sub-marine line of Telegraph between Kurrachee and Bombay, and entered into various details regarding the probable resuscitation of the sub-marine line of Telegraph between Suez and Kurrachee.

The proceedings then terminated after a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Wednesday the 5th July 1865 at 3 P.M. for the purpose of electing a Chairman and Deputy Chairman, the former in the room of A. C. Gumpert, Esq., resigned.

The following Members were present.—

Alexander Stewart, Esq., *Deputy Chairman*, in the Chair.

A. J. Hunter, Esq.
A. Huson, Esq.
A. Grant, Esq.
H. T. Simpson, Esq.
J. L. Scott, Esq.
J. Sands, Esq.
A. E. Ashley, Esq.
J. M. Sommerville, Esq.
E. Pennell, Esq.
H. G. Tippet, Esq.
H. Maxwell, Esq.
A. Brown, Esq.
L. Mavrocordato, Esq.
J. Hurst, Esq.
J. Bogie, Esq., and

James Taylor, Secretary.

The following Circular convening the Meeting was read by the Secretary :—

To the Members of the Chamber of Commerce,
Bombay.

Gentlemen,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce to inform you that a Special General Meeting will be held on Wednesday the 5th proximo at 3 p. m. for the purpose of electing a Chairman and Deputy Chairman, the former in the room of A. C. Gumpert, Esq., resigned.

Alexander Brown, Esq., will propose and J. Hurst, Esq. will second,

That Alexander Stewart, Esq., be elected Chairman and A. J. Hunter, Esq. Deputy Chairman.

The attendance of Members is particularly requested.

I am, Gentlemen, &c.,

(Signed) James Taylor,
Secretary.

Bombay, 26th June 1865.

It was proposed by A. Brown, Esq., (of Messrs. W. Nicol and Co.,) seconded by J. Hurst, Esq., (of Messrs. Peel, Cassels and Co., and carried unanimously :—

That Alexander Stewart, Esq. be elected Chairman, and A. J. Hunter, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

It was then proposed by A. J. Hunter, Esq., (of the firm of Messrs. W. and A. Graham and Co.,) seconded by Arthur Huson, Esq., (of the firm of Messrs. Robinson and Co.,) and carried unanimously :—

"That the best thanks of the Chamber be accorded to Mr. Gumpert for the able and efficient manner in which he performed the duties of Chairman during the period he held the office."

The whole of the business having been disposed of the Meeting separated after a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Chamber of Commerce was held at the offices of the Chamber, on Tuesday the 26th September 1865, at 3 P. M.

Present ;

Alex. Stewart, Esq., *Chairman*, in the Chair.

A. J. Hunter, Esq., *Deputy Chairman*.

H. Maxwell, Esq.,	J. L. Scott, Esq.,
A. Huson, Esq.,	A. C. Gumpert, Esq.,
J. Sands, Esq ,	W. Somerville, Esq.,
P. Adams, Esq.,	W. Joynson, Esq ,
Andrew Grant, Esq.,	Alex. Brown, Esq.,
Archibald, Grant, Esq.,	L. Mavrogordato, Esq.,
A. Brooke, Esq.,	R. T. Price, Esq.,
C. E. Benn, Esq.,	W. F. Stearns, Esq.,
H. Astley, Esq.,	A. Muller, Esq., and

James Taylor, Secretary.

The Notice convening the Meeting and the Annual Report of the Committee, having been read by the Secretary, the following resolutions were brought forward :—

Proposed by ANDREW GRANT, Esq., seconded by L. MAVROGORDATO, Esq., and carried unanimously,—

"That the Report now read be received with thanks, and printed for general information together with the documents therein referred to."

Proposed by H. MULLER, Esq., seconded by H. ASTLEY, and carried unanimously,—

"That the Members of the Committee retiring are entitled to receive the thanks of the Chamber, for their attention to its interests during the year of office now expired."

It was proposed by ALEX. BROWN, Esq., of Messrs. W. Nicol and Co., and seconded by JOHN L. SCOTT, Esq., of Messrs. Finlay, Clark and Co.,—That the Committee for the ensuing year be as follows :—

A. J. Hunter, Esq., of Messrs. W. and A. Graham and Co.	*Chairman.*
H. Maxwell, Esq., of Messrs. W. Nicol and Co.	*Deputy Chairman.*

J. Sands, Esq., of Messrs. Framjee, Sands and Co. .....
J. Bogie, Esq., of Messrs. Wallace and Co. .....
J. G. Smith, Esq., of Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart and Co. .....
W. Joynson, Esq., of Messrs. Martin, Young and Co. .....
L. Mavrogordato, Esq., of Messrs. Ralli Brothers .....
} *Members.*

The Chairman next directed the attention of the Meeting to the Report from the Select Committee appointed to investigate the facts connected with the subject of Mildew in Piece Goods, and called on the Secretary to read it, which having been done,—the Chairman moved :—

"That the Report of the Mildew Committee be received with the best thanks of the Chamber and that their recommendation to publish the evidence be carried out,"—which motion having been seconded by Mr. A. J. Hunter, it was put to the Meeting, and carried unanimously.

It was further proposed by ANDREW GRANT, Esq., seconded by J. M. SOMERVILLE, Esq.,—

"That the Committee on Mildew, consisting of Messrs. Brown, Gumpert and Mavrogordato, be re-appointed and requested to watch the subject and report to the Chamber any new facts tending to throw light on it."

The motion was put from the Chair, but was lost, being only supported by the mover and seconder.

Mr. Hunter intimated to the Meeting, that the Committee had collected a number of statistics on coolie emigration, and at the next General Meeting of the Chamber the subject would probably be brought forward for consideration.

A vote of thanks was awarded to the Chairman and the Meeting separated.

ANNUAL REPORT.

REPORT.

GENERAL REMARKS.

YOUR COMMITTEE have now the pleasure of meeting the members of the Chamber at the close of their term of Office to give a Report on the principal topics which have engaged their attention during the period they have acted as the Chamber's representatives.

The official year just closed will be notable in the history of Bombay, as a year hitherto unparalleled in its commercial annals for the reckless spirit of gambling speculation which possessed a great portion of the community; speculation which resulted to large numbers, as might be expected from its character—in utter ruin and disgrace. The unexpected wealth poured into the lap of Western India by the terrible incident of the American Civil War—now happily brought to a close—was not used wisely. Two years ago a mania for share speculation broke out, which continued to grow in intensity till it seemed to absorb the time and attention of the community. The legitimate trade of Bombay was comparatively neglected, and the energies of the

people devoted to the promulgation of schemes, the utility of which to the public, was probably the last thing thought worthy of consideration by the promoters.

The poverty of invention displayed in the form which the various speculations assumed, was as remarkable as the folly which frequently characterised them. Bombay was flooded with "Financial Associations," and doubtful schemes of Reclamation. Valuable works of reclamation of the greatest public utility in the course of construction, and sound banking institutions, were for a time partially discredited by the gambling that prevailed in their shares.

When the mania was at its height, intelligence was received of the unexpected termination of the American Civil War, gambling speculation suddenly collapsed, and insolvency and bankruptcy followed on a scale of magnitude unknown in any other crisis of modern share speculation. So numerous were the insolvencies and so enormous were the amounts involved, that your Committee felt it to be their duty to take prompt action in the matter of a memorial praying for a legislative enactment to give power to creditors to secure a more speedy liquidation of insolvent estates. This memorial, which was signed by all the principal merchants and bankers of Bombay, was speedily placed in the hands of His Excellency the Governor in Council who cordially supported its prayer when moving the Government of India to immediate legislation on the

subject. The high position which Bombay previously bore amongst the commercial cities of the world has been lowered by the gambling transactions which your Committee have thought it incumbent on them to refer to in the report; but it must be a great satisfaction to the members of this Chamber to know that the genuine trade of the place is at bottom thoroughly sound: it depends on no adventitious circumstances of any kind for its prosperity; and now that the false lure of wild speculation is removed, we have reason to hope that the commerce of Bombay will be placed on a sounder and broader basis than it has ever known before. (Appendix B.)

THE INDIAN TELEGRAPH.

One of the first questions which engaged the attention of your Committee on coming into office on the 1st October last year, was the working of the Electric Telegraph in India, and particularly that portion of the line used for the transmission of telegrams from Point de Galle in Ceylon, to Bombay. For months previously, serious complaints were made by the mercantile community and the public generally regarding the disorder and irregularity in the working of this portion of the Indian Telegraph. Whenever the arrival of the mail steamer from Suez bringing messages from England to Galle for transmission to this part of India was announced, an interruption on the line immediately followed as a matter of course, and these interruptions were so

uniform and systematic in character, that your Committee were driven to the conclusion that they were the result of fraud. The conclusion your Committee arrived at, was communicated to the members of the Chamber with a suggestion to the effect that if a reward of a considerable amount were publicly offered to any one who would come forward and give information, important results might be expected to follow.

The suggestion of your Committee was so liberally responded to by the members of the Chamber in the matter of providing funds that your Committee lost no time in issuing an advertisement offering a reward of five thousand rupees to any who would come forward and give such information as might lead to the apprehension and conviction of the guilty parties. The advertisement announcing the proposed reward was promptly made public through the medium of the newspapers, English and Vernacular. The aid of Government was also invoked to assist in the circulation of the announcement of the reward, and the co-operation of the Chambers of Calcutta and Madras solicited in furtherance of the proceedings that had been initiated. The announcement of the reward soon produced the result expected. Information was laid before your Committee of a character which, after deliberate consideration, led them to place the whole matter in the hands of their solicitors with a view to the prosecution of four persons charged with

tampering with and bribing signallers, in the Electric Telegraph Department in a systematic manner. The case, after a tedious prolongation in the Chief Police Court of two months and a half, during which period it ran serious risk of breaking down, was ultimately committed for trial at the March Criminal Sessions, and after a trial on the 27th of that month which occupied the entire day, the four prisoners were found guilty, sentenced to six months' imprisonment and a fine of five thousand Rupees. Two of the prisoners were old offenders, having been convicted of a similar offence in 1861 by the Magistrate at Sattara, who sentenced them to two years imprisonment and a fine of two hundred Rupees.

Sir Joseph Arnould, the Judge who presided at the Sessions in March last, on the occasion of passing sentence on the four prisoners who were convicted, expressed his regret that he could not punish them more severely than the Act empowered him. "The offence" he said "of which they had been found guilty was one of the worst crimes that could be committed in a mercantile community. It was a mercantile offence and a moral offence. In the one case it deprived the mercantile community of confidence in an institution which, if worked well, gave them many advantages: in the other case it was the means of bringing to ruin young men who had just commenced their career in life." The strange anomaly in the Telegraph Act—thus incidentally indicated by the learned Judge—whereby a wretch-

ed signaller in the receipt of twenty or thirty Rupees a month, can be punished for breach of duty by transportation beyond seas for a period of years —while the vastly greater criminal in a moral point of view, who is guilty of bribing a signaller to be a traitor to his trust, is only visited with a punishment of six months imprisonment with a trifling fine,— your Committee have thought it their duty to point out to the Government of India with a view to such an amendment of the law as will place it more in accordance with the principles of morality combined with due care for the security of the public interests.

Our predecessors in office had occasion, when addressing Government last year, on the state of the Indian Telegraph, to remark that "its working was so bad as seriously to affect its usefulness," and your Committee were afterwards called upon to support this statement by any facts it might be in the power of the Chamber to adduce. Your Committee accordingly made an appeal to the members to aid them in this matter by detailing any facts bearing on the subject which came within their knowledge and experience. This appeal was promptly responded to, and your Committee were able to place before Government early in the present year a body of facts that would enable it to judge on all points as to the accuracy of the charges brought against the Department for inefficiency, and as to the working of the Telegraph on every leading line in India. (Appendix C.)

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.

When the prospect of the opening of the Indo-European line of Telegraph via the Persian Gulf and Constantinople, seemed still distant, and nothing was accurately known, your Committee addressed the Bombay Government on the subject, in November last, with a view to obtain accurate information as to the progress that had been made and the actual position of affairs. The Government responded to this appeal with a promptitude that merits our best acknowledgments, by placing before your Committee full particulars on every point on which the Government itself possessed information. In a demi-official communication made to your Committee by the Military Secretary to Government, at this time, it was explained that the hindrance in opening the line at that date was "for want of settlement of the charges to be levied for distances in India beyond Kurrachee. For want of this there is no co-operation between the Indian Telegraph Departments. I hope with the permission of Government to explain this more fully hereafter, but I write this much at once and add assurance that His Excellency the Governor has represented very urgently the need for settlement of the Indian charges and removal of the hindrance to the use of the Indo-European Telegraph which at present meets any one in India resident elsewhere than at Kurrachee."

This want of accord between the two departments of the Telegraph was doubtless the main

cause of the delay in opening to the public the Indo-European line; for though it was practically completed in November 1864, it was not open to the public for the transmission of telegrams till near the end of February—a delay of nearly three months. Your Committee also at this period—when most points regarding the Indo-European Telegraph were unsettled, and the probable date of its opening altogether uncertain—gave full and pointed instructions to the Agent of the Chamber in London, in the matter of telegrams,—to despatch messages to the Chamber by either the Persian Gulf line, or the line via St. Petersburgh or both, as soon as it was found practicable to do so by either—in order if possible that the first messages by the direct Telegraph to India might be received by the Chamber. Notwithstanding the apparent completeness of our arrangements they unfortunately failed, and your Committee were much disappointed: the Chamber as you are all aware, was not first in the field; the first telegrams by the new line having been received by private firms.

You will have observed, that for the last two months no telegrams from England to the address of the Chamber have been received. Your Committee, when reviewing this subject three months ago,—taking into account the great expense of the telegrams, and the fact that most of the Members of the Chamber were subscribers to the subscription telegrams that were published in the newspapers—con-

sidered that their value to the Chamber was trifling as compared with their cost, and accordingly decided to discontinue them. The irregularity in the working of the Indo-European line of Telegraph, more especially during the first two months of its existence, was a source of serious inconvenience to merchants and of general dissatisfaction to the public. A Special General Meeting of the Chamber was held in April last for the purpose of considering the subject, and a Select Committee was appointed to inquire and to report "as to the necessity and the advantage of an independent submarine line from Kurrachee to Bombay so as to perfect Telegraphic communication between Bombay and England."

Though no formal report has been made by this Committee, a body of valuable facts bearing on the working of the telegraph has been collected through their instrumentality, besides many useful suggestions, which your Committee did not fail to avail of as aids on the numerous points connected with the working of the Telegraph that so constantly came before them.

Your Committee requested the Director of Telegraphs to give instructions that the Kurrachee date might be noted on all telegrams received from London for Bombay or any other place in India east of Kurrachee; but he refused, saying, "the Indian Telegraph Department is content to bear the onus of *ad interim* blame, leaving it to complainants to show where the fault lies." This seems rather shortsighted

policy, as in the true interests of the department it can never be right for the Director General to be other than conciliatory and accommodating, with a desire to afford information to the public, at all times and on all points connected with the department over which he presides, when it is required.

Your Committee have been able to do without the Director General's aid in this matter. The Director of the Mekran Telegraph has adopted an excellent plan of sending by post copies of all the Indo-European telegrams received, noting on these the exact time and date when thet elegrams are handed over to the Indian Telegraph Department, and they have otherwise ascertained from a careful induction of facts laid before them, that very often as much time is occupied in the transmission of a telegram between Kurrachee and Bombay, as between London and Kurrachee. Though messages have on the whole, been arriving of late more regularly and more rapidly than at first, no permanent improvement in this respect can be hoped for without another line of telegraph between Kurrachee and Bombay; and your Committee are given to understand that this is now being done. It will be interesting to the Members of the Chamber to learn that the inconvenience to which the mercantile community and the public are at present subjected by the Telegraph Establishment being located in Colaba at a considerable distance from the centre of business, the Fort is likely to be remedied at no distant date. Your Committee had

occasion to call the attention of the Bombay Government to this inconvenience a short time ago, and the Government, with a promptitude deserving our best acknowledgments, backed the representation on the subject from the Chamber so effectually that the Director General of Telegraphs has ordered the Department in Bombay to "lose no time in entering into communication with the Secretary to Government in the Public Works Department, in view to your being quickly supplied with accommodation sufficient for your whole establishment and so situated as to be convenient to the public, especially the mercantile community and appropriate to the purpose required." (Appendix D.)

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

Early in October last your Committee felt called upon to re-open the question of the arrangements for the conveyance of the Mails from Bombay to Europe and China. The inconvenience of the arrangement of despatching the Overland and China Mails on the same day and almost at the same hour had been brought to the notice of the Post Master General by our predecessors in office, but at the date in question the result of this representation was not known.

Your Committee, therefore, addressed the Post Master General to the effect that the despatch of the Overland Mail on the evening of the 14th and 29th of each month instead of the morning as at

present, would be an arrangement convenient alike to the mercantile community and the public. Subsequently your Committee learned that in conformity with former representations from the Chamber and the Post Office, it was arranged between the P. and O. Company and the latter, that the China Mails from the commencement of the present year should be despatched on the morning of the 15th and 30th of each month. This arrangement—suitable enough in itself—disarranged the plan proposed in your Committee's letter of the 21st of October last, to the Post Master General, and accordingly at a General Meeting of the Chamber held on the 8th December, it was resolved that your Committee should address the Post Master General to the effect that, owing to the new arrangement with reference to the China Mail about to come into operation, it would be for the interests of the mercantile community and the public of Bombay if the Overland Mails were despatched on the evening of the 13th and 28th of the each month instead of the 14th and 29th as previously recommended. This proposition did not receive the support of. the Post Master General. Meantime, however, the whole question assumed an entirely altered shape in consequence of a movement commenced in England. The great body of merchants and bankers in London connected with India and the East, memorialised early in the present year, Her Majesty's Post Master General for a weekly Mail to India on a fixed day of the week. When

intelligence of this movement was received here in March last, the Chamber authorised your Committee to support it in such manner as they might deem expedient. They accordingly prepared a memorial to Her Majesty's Post Master General in support of that which proceeded from the London merchants, and praying farther for the establishment of a weekly mail on a fixed day of the week from this side of India to England. This Memorial was signed by every member of the Chamber, and transmitted to its destination in the month of April last, through the medium of the Bombay Government which cordially supported its prayer. (Appendix E.)

THE TRAFFIC WORKING OF THE G. I. P. RAILWAY.

The inefficient character of the arrangements for working the traffic on the G. I. P. Railway was a source of much inconvenience to the mercantile community during the last two years, and was made a subject of complaint by the Chamber on behalf of the public to Government. In consequence of the unsatisfactory explanation given by Government in answer to a representation from the Chamber in May last year, the subject was again discussed at a General Meeting of the members of the Chamber in December, and a resolution was passed condemnatory of the existing state of affairs, and urging a further representation to Government on the defects in the arrangements that were still complained of. The resolution of the Chamber was duly laid before Government by

your Committee with a full expression of their opinion on most points in dispute. The answer received though not satisfactory on all points, admitted the justice of some of the complaints, stated what had been done or was about to be done in applying remedies; and on the other points, the letter showed an earnest desire on the part of Government to press on the Directors both here and at home the improvements that were required; and your Committee hope before long to see this great undertaking in such a state of efficiency in all its working arrangements as will render it the great benefit, which it ought to be, to the people and commerce of this side of India. (Appendix F.)

RAILWAY PROGRESS.

Your Committee have to acknowledge with their best thanks a succinct and clear memorandum from Captain Osborn, Agent of the G. I. P. Railway, detailing the progress of that Company's operations during the year ending 30th June last, and from Mr. Currey, Managing Agent of the B. B. and C. I. Railway detailing the particulars connected with the undertakings of that Company for the same period. Mr. Currey has also supplied to your Committee an interesting Report on the projected extension of this line from Baroda to Neemuch. The information received from these Companies will as usual form part of the appendices to this report. (Appendix G.)

RAILWAY TERMINUS ACCOMMODATION.

In March 1864, the Chamber submitted for the consideration of Government an elaborate Report on

the important question of the arrangements that were being made by Government and the Railway Companies with reference to Railway Terminus accommodation in Bombay. At the close of last year no notice had been taken of this Report, and at a General Meeting of the Chamber in December last, resolutions were unanimously passed expressing surprise and regret at the course pursued by Government, and ordering that a further representation should made on a subject of such vital importance to a proper regulation of the enormous traffic which now crowds our streets and bunders. The resolutions of the Chamber were duly laid before Government by your Committee, and their letter on the subject was promptly and courteously acknowledged. The Government expressed regret that the receipt of the Chamber's report had not been acknowledged though it stated that "no definite answer could have been given on the main question until Government had before it the opinions of the Directors of the Railway Company both here and at home." The Government indicated its opinion in its reply to your Committee in January last, as being in favor of over-bridges rather than for the high level line from Byculla to Mody Bay so strongly urged in the Chamber Report; but it said the question would be decided at home.

The question appears to have been now practically settled by Government taking its own way, as you must all have learned from the action that has at last been publicly taken. The question has now

passed from the Chamber; and your Committee can only express their regret that the course about to be resolved on is one utterly inadequate to meet the pressing exigencies for which it is expected to provide. (Appendix H.)

MILDEW IN PIECE GOODS.

This subject was taken into consideration at a General Meeting of the Members of the Chamber held in March, and a Special Committee was appointed to receive evidence and report to the Chamber on an evil which had assumed such proportions, that it seemed to threaten the existence of one of the most important branches of our import trade. As this Report will be laid before the present Meeting, it is unnecessary to say more than that it has your Committee's entire approval. (Appendix A.)

WHARF ACCOMMODATION AND WHARFAGE FEES.

In October last Government appointed a Committee for an important purpose, namely, to inquire what wharfage accommodation existed in Bombay or was in prospect of formation; what wharfage dues were levied, including Government wharves: under what rules these were levied; and whether there was any fixed principle in their regulation? These and other points were to form the subject of inquiry by the Committee with which the Chamber was invited to co-operate by the nomination of two of its members unconnected with wharfage property to take part in the deliberations, which you Committee had

much pleasure in doing. The Committee, as you are all well aware, made a valuable report to Government a few months back; copies of which have been placed at the disposal of the Chamber. It gives a clear and succinct account of the wharves at present existing in Bombay, the accommodation afforded by each, the purposes to which they are applied; as also of the schemes now in progress to supply present deficiencies and prospective wants.

Your Committee cordially agree in the concluding recommendation of this report in respectfully urging that Government "should continue to hold all such portions of the foreshore of the harbour of Bombay as may still be in their own possession, thereby providing the only effective check against possible combination and exactions on the part of private wharf owners, and that no time be lost in commencing and prosecuting the various Government works mentioned in the report, so as to render them available for the purposes of trade at the earliest possible date." (Appendix I.)

A UNIFORM SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The Government of India resolved last year, on various representations that had been made to it, to consider the question of a uniform system of weights and measures for British India. The public advantage of such a system was unquestioned, though the difficulties in the way of attaining it seemed considerable.

The mode of dealing with the question which

commended itself to His Excellency the Governor General in Council was to have "a separate committee of well selected persons for each Presidency and Province, each committee to consist of three or five members—for preference three,—say a civil servant, a merchant and an engineer officer—who should meet, deliberate and report to the local Government or administration." The Bombay Government, in carrying out the views of His Excellency the Governor General, in regard to this Presidency called upon your Committee to nominate a gentleman belonging to the Chamber to take part in the deliberations for which a committee had been convened, a request, compliance with which afforded your Committee much pleasure. The report of the Bombay committee on this important subject has just been made public, and will be read with interest.

Of late years we have undoubtedly made great progress in many ways, but in the important question of a uniform system of weights and measures for India we have made much inquiry without progress. It may not be generally known to the members of the Chamber that the Government of Lord Falkland more than fifteen years ago made a very elaborate inquiry into the subject, with a view to the introduction of a uniform system of weights and measures throughout Western India. The same Government also placed the subject before the Chamber of Commerce with full particulars as to what had been done; and our predecessors

in office at that time, frankly recognised the importance of the Government proceedings. The only fault that could possibly be found with the doings of the Bombay Government of that day on this question was, that it was slow. It was afraid to do anything otherwise than in a permissive way. The Chamber told the Government that in the Chamber's opinion, amongst the least disputed and least disputable functions of a Government, was that of fixing a standard of weights and measures, and of enforcing the use of it in commerce by whatever penalties were necessary for the purpose. The Chamber further recommended Government to give its own propositions legal authority, and the advice of the Chamber was so far taken, that a Draft Act was prepared by Mr. Advocate General LeMessurier on the recommendations that were made. The Draft Act was approved by the local Government and the Chamber, but got shelved at Calcutta and nothing more was ever heard of it. It is to be hoped that the present inquiry of the Government of India—which though more extensive in character, is conducted under more favorable circumstances—may soon issue in a practical result that will give general satisfaction. (Appendix J.)

IMPROVEMENT OF COTTON CULTIVATION.

Your Committee during the course of the business year just closing, have received many communications from Government and other quarters, bearing on the important question of the improvement of our cotton cultivation.

The communications on the subject received from Government were principally in the shape of Reports sent in to Government from the cotton Commissioner for the Presidency; and some of these were of a very interesting and important character. Your Committee had much pleasure in expressing to Government the high sense they entertain of the services of Dr. Forbes in his persevering efforts to restore cotton cultivation in the Dharwar districts, and to secure production from pure American seed; and they sincerely trust his exertions may be rewarded with permanent success. Dr. Forbes, a short time prior to his departure for England two months ago, submitted to your Committee samples of kuppas of Dharwar cotton, both from new American seed and seed that had been acclimatised in the Dharwar districts for fourteen years. Both samples were of very superior quality: the sample from seed that had been acclimatised fourteen years was somewhat inferior to the sample of kuppas raised from new seed, but it was still greatly superior to all other descriptions of Indian cotton, and seems to prove that the quality does not materially deteriorate when acclimatised, —a result of the highest importance in connexion with the efforts now being made under the direction of Government, and otherwise, for improving the quality of the cotton produced in Western India.

Samples from experiments in cotton cultivation from Egyptian and Peruvian cotton seed, made by private persons, have also been submitted to your

Committee for opinion. Some of these experiments are of a very interesting character, and show the increasing attention that is being given in several influential quarters to the improvement of the leading product in the export trade of this part of India. Though it is gratifying to note these experiments in the improvement of the cotton cultivation by the introduction of exotic varieties, we must not expect too much from them. The Dharwar districts, from peculiarities of climate and soil, have been proved, from experiments carried on now for a series of years, to be admirably adapted for raising a very fine description of cotton from new Orleans seed, but these districts stand alone. The experiments made with American seed in the great cotton field of Western India,—the province of Guzerat, have been failures, and those made elsewhere from American seed have done no better. Your Committee are aware that Dr. Forbes is not of this opinion, but the facts at present are against him. It is to be regretted that in the energy displayed in making experiments in various ways nothing appears to be doing for the improvement of the cultivation of the indigenous varieties. It is to be feared that in this perhaps the most important branch of the question, we have not merely not prgressed—we have sadly retrograded. We know from ascertained facts, that "the high and palmy state" of cotton cultivation in Guzerat was nearly a century ago. Dr. Gibson pointed out some years ago, when he pub-

lished under the sanction of the Government of Bombay Dr. Hove's curious and interesting journal of his tour in Guzerat in 1787-88 which was made under the orders of the British Government for the purpose of reporting on the cotton cultivation,—that it was clear in regard to cotton, we have been working in much ignorance of what was formerly the practice in the growth of this staple. "It is most satisfactorily shown" says Dr. Gibson, "that up to 1788 two waterings were deemed essential to the proper developement of the fruit, and the requiste length of fibre. * * * * How or when this fell into total desuetude does not appear." The Marquis of Tweedale, formerly Governor of Madras, and a nobleman distinguished at home for his knowledge of, and the attention he bestows, on agricultural questions, wrote a letter which has been made public on the subject of the improvement of the indigenous plant containing some valuable suggestions which it is to be hoped will not be thrown away. "Are we prepared to believe," says the Marquis, "that the length of the staple of the indigenous cotton of India is incapable of being increased by a judicious selection of the plant, by improved cultivation, and enriching the soil by such fertilising ingredients as will strengthen its fibre? I hope not." Your Committee hope not, and they farther hope that these suggestions may receive from the Government, and the cotton Department, the attention they deserve. (Appendix K.)

THE WORKING OF THE COTTON FRAUDS ACT.

This subject was discussed at a General Meeting of the Chamber held in March last, and a resolution somewhat unfavourable to the act in its practical working was passed. In handing up the resolution to Government your Committee took occasion to point out defects which seemed to render the act inoperative in cases where it might reasonably have been expected to be of use. The fee of four annas per bale was reduced to three, some months ago, and a communication has recently been submitted from this department to the Chamber for its opinion on certain amendments proposed with a view to render the act more effective in its operations in dealing with cases of alleged fraud. Your Committee have pleasure in bearing testimony to the care and zeal manifested by Mr. Bulkley, the chief inspector, in the direction of his department. In the report he submitted to Government prior to his departure on sick certificate to England some two months since, he expressed a sanguine opinion as to the benefits he expected to result before long from the efficiency of the establishment, and your Committee trust his anticipations will, during the next cotton season, be amply realised. (Appendix L.)

DUTIES ON EXPORTS IMPOSED BY THE BUDGET OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA 1865.

When the Budget of Sir Charles Trevelyan for the Financial year of 1865-66 was first produced in

the Council of His Excellency the Governor General on the first of April last, the proposition to impose an Export duty of three per cent. on wool, jute, tea, coffee and other articles, met with decided opposition from the mercantile community in all parts of India; the proposition, however, rapidly became law, and your Committee memorialized the Government of India on the impolicy of these duties, and prayed for their repeal. Subsequently, as the members of the Chamber are aware, the Secretary of State disallowed their imposition, and in all cases where in the meantime duties had been levied, the amount received was ordered to be returned. (Appendix M.)

ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT PONDICHERRY.

Your Committee had the pleasure to receive towards the close of last year, a communication from Pondicherry, intimating that the Governor of the French settlements in India had instituted a Chamber of Commerce there, which was intended to work upon the same basis and with similar functions as those of the French Metropolis and the principal Colonies. The president of the newly-constituted Chamber in communicating the foregoing intelligence did us the honour to say that he believed this Chamber would learn with interest that French commerce in that part of India had henceforth an accredited organ, charged to attend to all which may be of a nature to promote its devlopment—and that

they might count on the co-operation of this Chamber to aid in carrying out the purpose for which it had been instituted. Your Committee, in reply, intimated the high satisfaction with which they had heard the announcement conveyed in the president's letter, and assured him that it will afford the members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce very great pleasure to co-operate in all schemes having for their object the extension of the relations now existing between the two places and to aid in the promotion of whatever may affect beneficially the commercial interests which both institutions are especially charged to protect.

As connected with French commerce, your Committee may here mention that an elaborate and valuable report of the commerce of Marseilles for the year 1864 was received from the Marseilles Chamber by the last Mail, and can be inspected at any time by Members of this Chamber interested in the commerce of that leading French port. (Appendix N.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

Papers of considerable interest connected with the Persian Gulf trade, the Fairs held in various parts of the presidency, the statistics of the trade with the port of Aden, and other matters have been submitted to the Chamber by Government; and as usual, many references on questions of importance to the mercantile community have been made to your Committee, which they disposed of in the usual way.

It is unnecessary to refer to these questions in any special manner as full particulars will be found in the appendices which accompany this report on all points considered to be of public importance.

The Political Superintendent at Aden having represented to the Government of Bombay that there were apprehensions of serious distress at Aden, owing to the prevalence of famine in the surrounding districts of Arabia, the Government took immediate steps to do what lay in its power, by the adoption of measures calculated to relieve the distress. Your Committee were called upon to suggest the names of an European gentleman and two native merchants connected with the trade of Aden to confer in committee with the gentlemen appointed by the Government; a call which met with our immediate attention. The measures so promptly taken by the Government with the aid of the committee appointed to advise and assist, will, it is to be hoped, amply meet the exigencies of the case. (Appendix O.)

REVISION OF THE RULES OF THE CHAMBER.

Our predecessors in office having recommended a revision of the rules of the Chamber, the subject was brought before a General Meeting of the Chamber held on the 1st December last, when such alterations as were deemed expedient, were made with the consent of the Meeting. The rules as amended, were printed in the beginning of the present year,

but through an oversight were not circulated generally amongst the Members, but this will now be done.

FUNDS OF THE CHAMBER.

The income has been about equal to the expenditure. There was a balance in the hands of the Treasurers on the 31st ultimo, in favour of the Chamber of Rupees 2,074-10-4.

In conclusion we have to thank the members of the Chamber for their ready attention and support, whenever we have had occasion to consult them as a body at our General Meetings.

Your Committee during their year of office have had to communicate with the Government on many questions of great public importance, and it is a pleasure to them thus publicly to acknowledge the courtesy, consideration, and attention, which their representations have on all occasions received.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF MILDEW IN PIECE GOODS.

Your Committee, in presenting their Report have to express their regret that, owing to unavoidable circumstances they have been unable to lay it before the Chamber at an earlier date.

2. They desire to tender their best acknowledgments to those Members of the Chamber who have placed at their service a series of valuable reports.

3. In the opinion of your Committee, the papers received in reply to the list of Questions submitted to the Members of the Chamber, contain a body of information on a serious evil of recent date, connected with a leading branch of the Import Trade of Bombay, of greater value and importance than they believe to have been elicited in any other quarter on the same subject.

4. There is entire unanimity of opinion in the reports, that Mildew in cloth has enormously increased within the last three years: that in fact it has mainly been experienced by importers within the short period that has elapsed since the cessation of the American Cotton Supply; and that it is caused by an undue proportion of size in the cloth, or by bad sizing.

5. The high price of Cotton since 1861, the difficulty of disposing of Goods at an advanced price, and the necessity at the same time laid upon Manufacturers to continue Manufacturing so long as they were able to keep their Mills open;—appear to have operated as so many temptations to the use of ingredients in the Manufacture of the cloth, for the purpose of increasing weight, to the exclusion of the requisite quantity of the raw material.

6. The competition existing amongst Buyers seems to

have induced in numerous instances, much carelessness and want of any thing like a proper examination of the goods they select.

7. It is in evidence in the papers laid before your Committee, that where care and vigilance have been exercised in the selection,—the goods thus purchased have been found less liable to Mildew—thus establishing the point that care on the part of Buyers is a matter of the first importance.

8. In reference to questions submitted to the Members of the Chamber—regarding goods sold to dealers as sound and afterwards turning out to be partially damaged, though it is an undoubted hardship that dealers shoud have the privilege of throwing up their entire contract, owing to slight specks or apparent damage in the cloth that cannot fairly be called Mildew,—your Committee believe, on the evidence laid before them, that all disputes arising in such cases are best decided by survey or arbitration where they cannot be settled by private arrangement.

9. The question of the liability of Manufacturers or Agents for loss arising from Mildew is still undecided, but your Committee are given to understand that actions are now pending in the Court of Exchequer which will serve as precedents in the matter. The results of these actions will no doubt be watched with interest by Members of the Chamber.

10. In conclusion your Committee strongly recommend the publication of the answers received to queries No. 1 to 6, with a view to their being circulated amongst the Members of the Chamber; and that copies be transmitted to the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, with a request that they will desseminate the information contained in the report as widely as possible among Manufacturers and others interested in the Cotton trade in England. Your Committee are of opinion that the mere calling attention to the subject in such a public manner will be attended with most useful results.

(Signed) ALEX. BROWN,
" A. C. GUMPERT,
" L. MAVROGORDATO.

September 25th, 1865.

LIST OF QUESTIONS SUBMITTED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

1. Have you found in your experience as Importer or Surveyor, that during the last two or three years, Mildew has been more prevalent than it was formerly?

2. From what causes did, in your opinion, the Mildew arise, in the majority of cases which have come under your notice?

3. Have you found the proportion of Mildewed goods greater in lots imported in Iron ships than in wooden ships?

4. How do you account for Mildew in goods which externally show no trace of damage by Sea-water or otherwise?

5. Have you noticed that a portion only of any one parcel of goods turned out Mildewed, though all packages were externally in equally good condition? If so, how do you account for the partial damage?

6. What is your experience as to the increase or decrease of the damage, by keeping Mildewed goods for any length of time, when they are exposed to the influence either of the dry or wet season?

REPLIES OF MESSRS. RITCHIE, STEUART AND CO.

1. *Yes, much more prevalent.

2. From the quantity and quality of the ingredients used as sizes put into the goods.

3. We have not taken any note of this.

4. By the goods being packed in a damp state or from the sweating in the hold of the ship in which they have come, but these remarks refer only to goods which are liable to Mildew according to para. 2nd.

5. We have noticed this, and the matter is a complete mystery to us.

6. The longer Mildewed goods are kept the worse they generally become, especially in the wet weather, but we have known instances when exposure to the sun in the dry weather has improved the Mildewed appearance of the goods.

---

* The Numbers in the replies refer to the same numbers in the list of queries.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. W. NICOL AND CO.

1. We have certainly found, within the last 18 months or 2 years that mildew has been much more prevalent than formerly.

2. In the majority of cases, and in the worst cases, the mildew seems to arise from the presence of deleterious substance in dressing or size, or else from an excess of size, and we may mention that we have had this opinion in several instances confirmed by chemical analysis.

3. We have seen bad cases of mildew in goods imported both in iron and wooden ships. We cannot say, however, that we have paid much attention to this point.

4. We believe the mildew to arise from causes above stated (No. 2.)

5. We have occasionally observed this. Such cases we find of rare occurrence and they might be attributed to the exposure of a portion of any lot of goods to rain while being conveyed from warehouse to warehouse in Manchester before being packed, or in railway waggons in England, or on board ship. In the majority of instances, however, which have come under our notice where mildew occurred at all in a parcel of goods, they were found to be more or less damaged by it throughout.

6. As far as we have seen the holding of goods during the dry season, had not the effect of perceptibly increasing mildew, and with regard to the monsoon we have always endeavoured to avoid exposing goods to its influence, for we should be very apprehensive of the result.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. W. AND A. GRAHAM AND CO.

1. Till within the last twelve months we found very few of our goods damaged by mildew, but latterly the evil has increased very much.

2. From deleterous matter used in the process of sizing the yarns, or from the goods being steamed or exposed in damp cellars to increase their weight.

3. We do not believe that shipment in Iron vessels, at all affects the goods.

4. See answer to question No. 2.

5. We have, and are unable to account for it.

6. Where the fabric of the cloth has become injured, we believe the longer the goods are kept the worse they become, but if the pieces are only spotted with mildew without injury to the texture, we have not observed the damage to increase.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. PEEL CASSELS AND CO.

1. This evil has been gradually increasing during the time referred to, and is now worse than ever it was, as scarcely a shipment arrives in a sound condition.

2. From the ingredients used in the process called sizing being acted upon by moisture. Without moisture there can be no mildew. Of late years owing to the high price of cotton and the low cost of size the majority of manufacturers have been adding more and more size to their cloth till they are now able by recent inventions and improvements (?) in warp sizing, to add 4 or 5 times as much size as was usual before the cotton famine, and in addition many makers add moisture in order to diminish the harshness of oversized cloth, and still further augment its weight, and so successful have they been that now-a-days when a merchant buys an ordinary 6 lb. shirting instead of getting as formerly 5¼ to 5⅝ lb. of cotton he gets somewhere about 4 lb., such cloth if kept long in a cool climate like that of England runs great risk of getting mildewed, even if periodically turned over, and when packed and sent on a 3 to 4 months' voyage, twice crossing the line the wonder is not that it turns out mildewed upon arrival at its destination, but that any of it should be found sound.

3. Iron ships' cargoes are generally found more mildewed than those of wooden vessels which is probably to be ascribed to the greater steaming of the former than the latter.

4. It may arise from the last named cause or the damp state the goods were in when packed.

5. Frequently. Even one side of a bale is often found mildewed when the other is quite sound, although the exterior appears the same on both sides. In such cases the bale may have been stowed where one side has been more exposed to the changes of temperature than the other, in contact with a damp package, damp dunnage, or while in transit to port of shipment exposed to damp.

6. In the dry hot weather we have frequently noticed the condition of mildewed goods much improve, sometimes even that the mildew has disappeared altogether especially when the bales have been opened and exposed to a free current of air. On the other hand during the monsoon, as might naturally be expected, mildewed goods generally get much worse.

Replies of Messrs. Grey and Co.

1. We have, although upon the whole goods imported by us during the past three years have been tolerably free from mildew.
2. We imagine chiefly from bad size, and damp packing to increase weight.
3. This we have not remarked, but we have almost always found more than average damage in goods per ships partly coal laden.
4. In our opinion the heat of the ship's hold causes the sour size to ferment when goods are damp, and induces decomposition.
5. We have, and consider that it must arise from some portions of the ship's hold being better ventilated than others.
6. Goods slightly mildewed arriving in October, would not we think suffer much by being held till April. As a rule we consider that mildew becomes worse in May and the monsoon months.

Replies of Messrs. Finlay, Scott and Co.

1. In reply to question No. 1, we can answer without hesitation that, during the last two years mildew in piece goods has been much more prevalent than it was formerly, and we are confident that all Importers and Surveyors must be of the same opinion. Three years ago instances of mildew were not so frequent as during the last two years, but even then cases were commoner than previously.
2. In by far the majority of cases that have come under our observation, the damage has risen from other than external causes. In our opinion the origin of the mildew exists either in the excessive sizing of the goods, or in the deleterious nature of the ingredients employed in so doing, or possibly from both causes combined.
3. Certainly the greater number of instances of mildew that have come under our observation, have been in goods imported in Iron Ships,—but it must be recollected that the majority of the Liverpool vessels that bring general cargoes are Iron, consequently it would be unfair to impute the blame to them, nor do we think, as a rule, that Iron Ships are more likely to cause mildew than wooden ones.
4. This question is so far replied to in our answer No. 2, that it must be patent to all who have had any experience as Importers or Surveyors that the mildew which has been so general of late, although it may be much increased is not produced by external causes; consequently we can come to no other conclusion

than that the damage arises from either improper or excessive sizing of the cloths.

5. This is certainly noticeable, and it is extremely difficult to find a good reason for its occurrence. We imagine however that it is possible that portions of a particular parcel of goods may be packed at a different time and perhaps in a different state—a portion of a shipment may be stowed in a damper part of the vessel, and on arrival here it is quite possible during the monsoon months that part of a shipment may be landed during dry weather, and the remainder during heavy rains, under such circumstances goods with a tendency to mildew would doubtless become so.

6. We have no hesitation in stating that, during the rains mildewed goods ought to be disposed of with the least possible delay, indeed at all times as a rule, we would advocate a speedy sale of goods so damaged; occasionally in the dry weather it may be a matter of policy to hold a parcel of goods in which the mildew is slight and of such a nature that it will not materially increase, but this case is exceptional. We may add also that in a few instances, we have seen damaged goods exposed to the sun, and the mildew very nearly, if not altogether, disappeared, but in these cases the character of the mildew was different from what is so generally prevalent.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. WALLACE AND CO.

1. Most decidedly so.

2. The quantity and more especially the quality of the *sizing* used in the manufacture of the goods; dampness prior to being packed, and damp storage, &c., we consider as quite subordinate causes. We have heard it maintained by more than one person engaged in this kind of trade, that the Surat cotton, now so much used at home, has a good deal to do with mildew, but we are not, ourselves, prepared at present in any way to endorse this opinion. If this really is the case, how is it we would ask, that gray *yarn* never or seldom arrives out mildewed?

3. We cannot speak with any great confidence on this point.

4. Only under the supposition that the goods contain deleterious ingredients; generally speaking these appear to be used with the view of causing the goods to absorb moisture prior to their being packed and as substances of a fermenting nature appear also to be used, it is natural to suppose, that on being placed in the ship's hold, a sort of fermentation takes place and this, in its turn, is followed by rot.

5. Have never noticed it to any extent. When such is the case we should say it arises from the difference in the treatment which each of the bales may have received, for instance some bales may have been stowed in a damper or worse ventilated part of the ship than others.

6. We always make it a point to have our goods stored in *dry* godowns and also quite clear of the floor and walls. and we cannot say that we have noticed any material difference in the effect of temperature on goods during the dry and during the wet season. We held goods all through last monsoon, which on being opened only a little time since were found *not* to contain the smallest trace of mildew.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. FRAMJEE SANDS AND CO.

1. Much more prevalent.

2. In our opinion excess of size and in many cases size of injurious quality. In some cases damp packing appeared to be the cause.

3. In our experience we have found no difference in the condition of the goods imported by wood or iron ship.

4. Principally from excess or bad quality of size or from both.

5. We have found in many instances that one part of a shipment exhibited damage to a greater extent than another. Seldom indeed do we find two bales damaged to the same extent. As a rule we have found that the bales which showed little or no damage, had every appearance of becoming as bad as the others in time.

6. In the wet season we find the mildew extends rapidly. In dry weather we are of opinion that it increases though not to the same extent.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. STOEHR, PRIEGER AND CO.

1. Up to the end of 1863 we had scarcely a single case of mildew.

2. From oversizing or from bad size.

3. Not that we are aware.

4. In most cases from the decomposition of the size, from the bad ingredients it often contains and from the *quantity of moisture* it absorbs.

5. Often! Sometimes only the two outside pieces are spotted, sometimes only the edges of all or of parts of the pieces, sometimes only the edges on one side of the bale, while the inside is

as sound as possible. We have found really good cloth affected in this way, and as even the best makes of Surat Cotton require more sizing than those made of long-stapled Cotton, we attribute the described damage to the action of the packing material upon the sizing, but consider it a gross misnomer to call this kind of damage mildew, as the cloth, even where touched, remains strong, which it would never do, if really mildewed.

6. Real mildew, we find, increases in all seasons, if the goods are kept, particularly however during the monsoon. But goods affected in the way described under para 5 we have held during the whole of the rains without their getting worse.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. FINLAY, CLARK AND CO.

1. It has not only been more prevalent during the last two or three years but has, in our opinion, been greatly on the increase during the past twelve months.

2. (1) from an excessive quantity of size, (2) from the component parts thereof being apparently of an inferior quality (3) from the goods having been packed damp and (4) from a four month's voyage in vessels with a heating cargo such as Coal, Beer, &c. There is a species of stain, however, sometimes visible on the edges of the pieces, in bales, which in the parlance of of Dealers is styled "Mildew" and the goods rejected in consequence. These stains we are convinced result from the pressure of the goods, which, as remarked above, have been packed slightly damp, against the packing paper and tarpauling.

3. We have not noticed any appreciable difference.

4. From the goods having been packed damp and from the style of packing being so secured as to prevent either the ingress or egress of air. The constituents of the sizing under these circumstances ferment, as it were, and the goods from the chemical results of this fermentation appear gradually to rot.

5. Yes, we have frequently seen one portion of a parcel of goods mildewed when another portion was perfectly sound, the exterior of all the packages being equally free from damage. We account for this partial damage by the inferior quality of the cotton from which the majority of goods are now made from the difference in the English climate during the different processes of manufacture, the consequent comparative excess of moisture in the goods at the time of packing, the character of the ship by which they are despatched and the effects of the several climates upon the various descriptions of goods which form the bulk of the cargo of different vessels.

6. We find that mildewed goods in the original packages de-

teriorate much more rapidly during the wet than during the dry season. But goods when opened out improve in appearance rapidly, except during very heavy rains.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. CARDWELL PARSONS AND CO.

1. We have not had any occasion to complain of mildew. As Surveyors we have found mildew decidedly on the increase.
2. From injurious ingredients used in the sizing.
3. We have not investigated so closely.
4. We think this question may be answered very much in the same way as question No. 2.
5. In the surveys we have attended we have found the mildew has been throughout the shipment.
6. We have no experience of such, never having had to hold mildew goods.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. ROBINSON AND CO.

1. Yes.
2. From some substance used in the manufacture of the goods.
3. No.
4. From the goods having been stored in damp cellars at home and packed damp.
5. Yes, and we attribute it to the mildewed portion having had more dressing and having been packed damper than the sound portion.
6. They deteriorate much faster in a wet season. We have never known *bona fide* mildew to decrease, but if very slight and the goods are kept perfectly dry the increase may be imperceptible—damp is fatal.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. EDWARD BATES AND CO.

1. Yes.
2. Bad and excessive sizing.
3. Have never noticed any difference.
4. Bad and excessive sizing and having been packed and shipped in damp weather.
5. Generally all of one weight mildewed, if a part were so. In exceptional cases, we presume that the apparently sound must either have been better stored previous to packing or so stored

that the latest mildew had had that time to make its appearance.

6. Do not find mildew increases in dry weather. We have not had a sufficient quantity of mildewed goods on hand through a monsoon to be able to express an opinion of any value.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. C. MACDONALD AND CO.

1. Yes.
2. Chiefly we believe from the dressing.
3. Have not paid particular attantion to this.
4. Bad sizing—stored in damp premises—or packed in a damp and heated state.
5. Have in some instances found it so. Attribute it to dampness, more especially when we know that the goods were all bought from one manufacturer.
6. Exposure to sun is very beneficial, and we have sometimes found it in a great measure remove the damage.

REPLIES OF MESSRS. LEGGATT AND CO.

1. Formerly it was a most exceptional thing unless induced by sea damage, now hardly a shipment comes without some packages being tainted.
2. From excess of sizing used, thus retaining an increased degree of moisture in the cloth.
3. We have just lately landed goods, ex *Ophelia* (Iron) no mildew whatever, but not having noticed whether the ships were iron built or not we cannot say more.
4. It appears to us there are several reasons, or rather several causes insufficient in themselves, but combined sufficient, to produce mildew.

1st.—Excess of size used in giving stiffness to the threads.
2nd.—Increased moisture retained in the cloth by reason of the size.
3rd.—The moisture driven outwards by the immense pressure goods are subjected to.
4th.—By sweating.

5. We have generally found mildew run right through the parcel, but this is not a rule.
6. We never hold mildewed goods through the rains—in the dry season, if only slightly spotted they may be held for some month or two without materially increasing damage.

REPLIES OF MESSRS NASMYTH AND CO.

1. Yes.

2. *a* From the quantity and *principally* the *quality* of the sizing used in stiffening the warps and yarns preparatory to weaving. *b* From the heating of the bales consequent on the cloth having been more or less damp when packed. *c* Sometimes the outside pieces only are marked, and this appears to arise from the forcing of the tar from the tarpauling into the paper, which marks the goods, and this description of mildew (?) damage appears to be aggravated by external moisture.

3. No.

4. See answer 2.

5. Yes, and consider mildew in such a case to arise from damp. Thus the goods in question may have been packed in a cellar with a damp floor in which case we should expect to find the last bales packed the most liable to mildew, owing to the absorption of damp during their contact with the floor. Or, the first portion of the lot may have been packed on a bright dry day, and the remainder the next day, which may have been wet and misty. Again, the goods may have come in from the manufacturers a little damp from atmospheric or other causes, and piled and packed in a dry and warm room, in which case the first packed would be most liable to damage.

6. During the monsoon we find that mildew goods deteriorate, especially if heated, but during the dry season the damage does not perceptibly increase; our practice is however to dispose of mildewed goods as soon as possible after the damage is discovered, in order to escape the danger of possible deterioration.

INTEGRITY OF BOMBAY SURVEYS ON SEA DAMAGED PIECE GOODS.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—I received by last Mail from England, in a private letter from my Home partners, the subjoined extract of a letter from Bombay. They inform me that it has been posted up at Lloyd's, and, having an interest in Bombay, they very naturally request that I let them know to what extent I consider the allegations true. Allegations of a very serious character are there brought against the merchants of Bombay, especially in the second clause, which, in my opinion, can hardly be substantiated by fact.

The writer of the letter uses the word *Surveyors*, but it is unnecessary for me to inform you that as a rule surveyors of goods damaged by sea water or by mildew, are merchants or assistants of some standing in their establishments.

The document having been posted up at Lloyd's must, as matter of course, have been read by tens of thousands; and in these circumstances I am prompted to address you with a request that you will be good enough to lay the extract before the Committee of the Chamber for these gentlemen to consider whether steps ought not to be taken to relieve the merchants of Bombay from a stigma which must be associated with them in the minds of many in England.

The merchants of Bombay glory in the reputation of being strictly honourable and high principled in all their dealings, and it pains me to think that any correspondent should have charged them with wilfully defrauding the underwriters by certifying to mildewed goods being salt water damaged.—I beg to remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) JOHN L. SCOTT,
of Finlay, Clark and Co.

Bombay, 18*th January* 1865.

Extract of a letter from Bombay, dated 28th October 1864.

"We consider it our duty to call attention to the serious loss which is sustained by underwriters on account of the very large proportion of piece goods which arrive in this market damaged by mildew, not mildew caused by sea water or by any thing which takes place on the voyage, but by the state of the goods when they are turned out by the manufacturers. The underwriters are sufferers in two ways; the first can hardly be provided against. When bales arrive here damaged by sea water they are surveyed, and, if found badly damaged, they are sent to auction on account of the underwriters, but many of these goods, besides the sea water damage, are deteriorated to a greater or less extent by being mildewed, and the same price is not, and cannot be, got for them at auction as if they were damaged by sea water alone; but the claim is made out for the difference between the price the goods fetch and their sound value, and thus the underwriters have to pay for the deterioration on account of mildew as well as that on account of damage from accidents of the Sea. It is difficult to see any way of obviating this hardship on this side, as it would be impossible to determine the proportion of loss arising from each kind of damage; the remedy lies with the underwriters themselves either in refusing to insure with average, or in raising the rate to cover the extra risk. The second way in which underwriters are taken advantage of, is in sending to auction large batches of goods as sea damaged which have not a speck of sea damage about them, but which owe their depreciation entirely to mildew. The manufacturers will not recognize claims for mildew, and where the loss falls on the importer there is a very strong temptation to make the damage, if possible, sea water. But we understand that there are surveyors who pass large lots of goods in that way. Of late the ships arriving here with goods have turned out their cargoes in very fair order as to sea water damage, and we have seen very few salt water damaged goods. If claims from Bombay have been heavy, we are afraid that underwriters are being made to pay for manufacturers' misdeeds. As mildew in a parcel of goods generally runs through the whole lot, while, except in very extraordinary cases, this is seldom the case with sea water damage, certificates including a number of running numbers of bales by a ship which has not met with any severe accident, or been reported as having turned out her cargo badly damaged, should be looked to."

No. 6 of 1865.

To Messrs. Campbell, Mitchell and Co.,

Bombay.

Gentlemen,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to lay before you, as the Agents to Lloyd's, the accompanying communication from a member of the Chamber handing up for the consideration of the Committee, a printed extract from a letter purporting to have been sent from Bombay, bearing date 28th October last, and which is reported in the communication referred to, as having been posted at Lloyd's.

You will observe the gravity of the charge which is made in the second section of the printed extract, practically against the merchants of Bombay,—where it is asserted "that there are surveyors who pass large batches of goods" for sale at auction, "as sea damaged, which have not a speck of sea damage about them, but which owe their depreciation entirely to mildew":—a charge, the plain meaning of which amounts to this, that there are surveyors amongst us, who so perform their duties as to perpetrate frauds on the underwriters.

The Committee when deliberating on this subject, in reference to the enclosed documents, at their meeting on Friday last, expressed their ignorance of the existence of any such practice as that asserted in the printed extract, and in so far as their own experience went they knew of no facts that could in any way justify the assertion.

The matter, however, is of so much importance,—involving alike the interests of underwriters and the character of Bombay merchants, that it cannot be passed over, and the Committee will use their best endeavours to have it thoroughly investigated so that the real facts of the case may be elicited and the truth made known.

As a first step in their proceedings, I have been instructed to lay the paper before you, as the firm representing Lloyd's, and otherwise having much experience in surveys; and to request you will be kind enough to favour the Committee with your opinion, accompanied by any facts that it may be in your power to give.—I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

(Signed) James Taylor,

Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 23rd January, 1865.

To the MEMBERS of the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Bombay.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed by the Committee to lay before you the accompanying communication from a Member of the Chamber handing up for the consideration of the Committee a printed extract from a letter purporting to have been sent from Bombay, and which is reported in the communication referred to, as having been posted at Lloyd's.

The subject is of the utmost importance, and as the change made in the printed extract is of a very serious character,—the Committee are most desirous of having all facts bearing on a subject so vital to the character of our merchants, placed fully before them, before taking any steps in dealing with so grave a matter.

I have to request therefore on behalf of the Committee that you will be kind enough to favor them confidentially with any facts within your own knowledge and experience bearing on the subject of the enclosures, and as to the value or otherwise of the surveys held in Bombay and the competency of the surveyors, in reference to the grave change brought against both in the printed extract.

The Committee will feel obliged by any communications you may have it in your power to make, being sent to me as promptly as possible. The envelope containing such to be marked in the corner "Surveys" and "confidential."—I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant.

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 30*th January* 1865.

No. 37 OF 1865.

To the COMMITTEE of UNDERWRITERS, LLOYD'S, ROYAL EXCHANGE,

London.

GENTLEMEN,—The Bombay Chamber of Commerce has had its attention called by one of its members, to a printed extract from a letter from Bombay, dated 28th October last, said to have been posted at Lloyd's.

2. The extract in question, copy of which is herewith annexed, appears to be taken from a letter, written especially for the information and in the supposed interests of the underwriters; and the writer in very definite and distinct terms, charges surveyors of damaged piece goods in Bombay, with giving certificates for "large batches of piece goods, as sea damaged which have not a speck of sea damage about them, but which owe their depreciation, entirely to mildew."

3. This is indeed a most serious charge being in truth a declaration that there are surveyors in Bombay, who so misconduct themselves in the manner in which they perform the duties they undertake, as to give certificates, which are not accordant with fact in regard to the goods they survey, and thus aid in perpetrating deliberate frauds on the underwriters.

4. When the printed "extract," was brought before the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce, the members declared their entire ignorance of the existence of any such mal-practices, and in so far as their own experience went, they knew of no facts that could in any way justify the assertions that had been made.

5. The matter however appeared to the Committee to be of so much importance:—involving alike the interests of underwriters and the character of Bombay merchants that they deemed it a duty incumbent upon them to use their best endeavours to have the charges thoroughly investigated, in order that the real facts might be elicited and the truth made known.

6. With this view, a confidential inquiry was instituted amongst the firms (exceeding fifty in number) composing the Chamber of Commerce, to ascertain whether evidence could be adduced from the experience of any of them, that would in any way support the charge brought against the integrity of Bombay surveys.

7. In answer to the inquiry thus instituted the Committee were favoured with confidential communications from all the firms of high standing having extensive dealings in piece goods, and in no case could a single fact be produced, that would in the remotest degree justify the assertion, that goods owing their "depreciation entirely to mildew," "were passed by surveyors as sea-damaged."

8. The surveys on damaged piece goods in Bombay are, for the most part, conducted by merchants, or by assistants in their employ having much experience, and who are in every respect competent to perform such duties; and the Committee feel called

upon to testify from their own knowledge as well as that of our principal merchants, to the fair and impartial spirit in which surveys are conducted, alike as regards the interests of underwriters and the owners of goods.

9. So far as the Chamber of Commerce is concerned, the Committee are in a position which entitles them to deny and to repudiate the assertions made against the honesty and good faith of the surveys of piece goods in Bombay.

10. It is an easy matter to make loose, sweeping charges, such as those contained in the Bombay letter, and difficult to answer them because of their vagueness; but the Committee challenge the writer to support his charges with facts, and if he cannot, he is bound in honour to apologise and withdraw them.

11. In conclusion I am directed by the committee of the Chamber to request that you will be good enough to give the same publicity to this denial of the charges made in the letter from Bombay, as was given to the letter itself.—I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee for managing the affairs of Lloyd's to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th March, referring to the letter addressed to them from Bombay on the 28th October 1864, respecting the practice of selling goods at that port, as sea damaged, where the damage is really caused by mildew, stating the measures taken by the "Bombay Chamber of Commerce" in the matter, and requesting that the same publicity may be given to your denial of the charges made in the letter from Bombay as was given to the letter itself.

In reply I am instructed to inform you that the same publicity has been given to your Communication as to the letter from Bombay originally received, and I am at the same time to state that it would have been more satisfactory to the Committee if you could have assured them that no such practice as that complained of has existed in Bombay.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) GEO. A. HALSTED,
Secretary.

Lloyd's, 27th April, 1865.

APPENDIX B.

SPEEDY LIQUIDATION OF INSOLVENT ESTATES.

No. 114 of 1865.

To F. S. Chapman, Esq.,

Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,—I have the honour, by direction of the Chamber of Commerce, to forward herewith a memorial addressed to His Excellency the Governor in Council, signed by the principal merchants and Bankers in Bombay, praying for a legislative enactment, to enable creditors to secure a more speedy and satisfactory liquidation of Insolvent estates, than is at present attainable under the existing Insolvent Act.

In transmitting this memorial for presentation to His Excellency, the Committee desire respectfully to express their hopes, that its prayer may meet with His Excellency's approval and that he will take the earliest opportunity of laying the memorial before His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India with a view to action being promptly taken in a state of affairs urgently pressing for relief.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) James Taylor,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 23th June 1865.

No. 115 of 1865.

MEMORIAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE ENACTMENT TO GIVE POWER TO CREDITORS TO SECURE A MORE SPEEDY LIQUIADTION OF INSOLVENT ESTATES.

To His Excellency Sir Bartle Frere, K.C.B., Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

THE MEMORIAL OF THE UNDERSIGNED MEMBERS OF THE MERCANTILE AND BANKING COMMUNITY OF BOMBAY.

Respectfully Sheweth,—That in view of the numerous failures involving sums of unexampled magnitude now taking place, and likely to continue to result from the present alarming monetary crisis in Bombay, your memorialists would respectfully

urge on your Excellency in Council the necessity for the immediate amendment, by legislative enactment, of the existing Insolvent Act.

That the Insolvent Court appears to be unsuited for the winding-up of a number of large estates proceeding contemporaneously.

That where an estate includes extensive and complicated mercantile operations, the undivided attention of one or more competent and interested persons is necessary to investigate and comprehend them, to carry out and bring to a close the various transactions pending and to collect and distribute the funds as rapidly as possible, by realizing the assets through the means of sale, mortgage, suit or compromise.

That it is impossible that one official assignee, not himself a trader, assisted by a very limited staff, can effect those objects satisfactorily for a number of large estates in contemporaneous liquidation.

That by the Insolvent Act no suit can be instituted or defended by the official assignee without leave of the Court, and in like manner no composition of debts due to the estate, or reference to arbitration can be made without like leave and notice to creditors, nor is there power to compromise debts due by the estate.

That the Insolvent Court now sits but once in the fortnight, and that its sittings, your memorialists are informed, could not be made more frequent without involving increased arrears at the original side of the Court, while the expense of applications and the delay thus incurred would prove extremely burdensome.

That the most satisfactory mode of winding-up private estates, where the debtor and all the creditors assent, is under trustees, selected for mercantile ability, integrity, and, if possible, extent of interest in the estate to be wound up; that interest forming in itself a guarantee, that suits, will not be improvidently instituted or defended, nor compromise be rashly or injuriously resorted to, and that distribution of assets will be made as rapidly as practicable.

That it is most desirable that a method be provided by which the benefits of winding-up under trusteeship can, with certainty, be obtained by creditors, while the interest of debtors shall be duly protected when dealing honestly with their property.

That for this purpose, your memorialists would respectfully urge the necessity of a legislative enactment being speedily passed whereby the majority in value, of creditors, shall be empowered to wind up their debtors estate under trusteeship, which shall be compulsory both upon the minority in value of the creditors (either of whom have the power in the existing state of the law, of throwing the estate into the Insolvent Court.)

That in order, however, to guard against any possible injustice to the debtor or to the minority, the power of directing an estate to be so wound up, in cases where differences of opinion exist among the parties concerned, to be vested in a court of justice, to whom an application for the purpose should be made by the majority, and by whom any well founded objections on the part either of the debtor or the minority should be considered, and, if necessary, the order refused. The application to the Court to include the names of the trustee fixed on by the majority and the rate of remuneration proposed for confirmation by the Court. The trustees by virtue of such appointment by the Court, to have conferred on them all the powers vested in official liquidators under Section 89 of Act XXI of 1857, but to be exempted from the obligation of obtaining, in detail, the sanction of the Court for their exercising those powers, whilst they should at the same time be liable to control by the Court for any actual or apprehended abuse of them. The debtor to make a return, on oath, of all his property, and to hand the same over to the trustees and to be bound to answer, on oath, all questions relative to his property the trustees may ask, being liable to the usual penalties for perjury and for fraudulent concealment of property, falsification of books, undue preference, &c. &c.

That your memorialists would humbly submit that very great benefits will accrue to the interests they represent by the passing of such an enactment, inasmuch as each estate, having its own trustees or liquidators, all insolvent estates will thus contemporaneously progress towards liquidation under the most economical and favorable circumstances.

That the commercial community interested in these liquidations will thus most speedily learn and obtain results, and general credit will be most readily restored, each person interested being enabled, in the shortest time, to estimate and measure the consequence of these liquidations on his own possession. The consequence, on the other hand of a number of large estates being possibly,—either through a desire on the part of a debtor to harass his creditors, or of inability on their part to come to a common understanding—thrown into the present Insolvent Court,—would be disastrous in the extreme.

Your memorialists, therefore, humbly beg that your Excellency will, without delay, represent to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council, the necessity for the passing of such a measure, as the above is an outline of, and with all the haste which the constitution of the country will admit; inasmuch as the crisis having already overtaken the community, the measure to be of real service, must be at once brought into operation.—And your memorialists will ever pray,

Ritchie, Steuart and Co.
Remington and Co.
Finlay, Scott and Co.
Wallace and Co.
Forbes and Co.
Ewart, Latham and Co.
Macindoe, Rogers and Co.
Framjee, Sands and Co.
Roper, Price and Co.
Knoop and Co.
Gaddum and Co.
Watson, Bogle and Co.
Macnee and Co.
Ward and Warland.
Stearns, Hobart and Co.
David Sassoon and Co.
p. pro. Edward Bates and Co.,
P. Adams.
Lawrence and Co.
p. pro. Comber, Son and Co.,
A. Simpson.
For Bank of Bombay,
D. Robertson, Officiating Secretary and Treasurer.
For the Agra and Masterman's Bank Limited,
James Ilbery, Manager.
For the Chartered Bank of India Australia, and China,
James Douglas, Agent.
For the Chartered Bank of India, London and China,
Robert Campbell, Agent.
For the Bombay City Bonk,
D. McCulloch, Manager.
For the Financial Association of India and China,
John Smith, Officiating Manager.
For the Eastern Financial Association,
William Watson, Manager.
For the Oriental Bank Corporation,
A. Gerrard, Agent
For the Asiatic Banking Corporation,
A. Morrison, Agent.
For the Commercial Bank Corporation of India andthe East,
Michael DeQuadros, Agent.
W. Nicol and Co.
W. & A. Graham and Co.
Grey and Co.
Peel, Cassels and Co.
A. H. Huschke and Co.
Cardwell, Parsons and Co.
Campbell, Mitchell and Co.
Lyon, Brothers and Co.
Finlay, Clark and Co.
Martin, Young and Co.
Stoehr Prieger and Co.
George S. King and Co.
Jules Siegfried and Co.
p. pro. Leggatt and Co.,
Frederick Hoyer.
Volkart Brothers.
p. pro. Killick, Nixon and Co.,
J. May Somerville.
J. Sigg and Co.
Hahn Kühn and Co.
Nasmyth and Co.
Robinson and Co.
Charles Macdonald and Co.
For the Bombay Presidency Bank, Limited,
Robert Pringle, Manager.
For the Alliance Bank of Bombay, Limited,
W. F. Wesche, Manager.
For the Indo-Egyptian and London Bank, Limited,
D. Hogarth, Acting Manager.
For Central Bank,
Edwin Heycock.
For the Sind Bank,
R. Young, Manager.
For the Bang of Hindustan, China and Japan, Limited,
A. Thomson, Manager.
For the Bank of India,
John Gray, Manager.
For the London and Delhi Bank,
W. B. Thompson, Agent.
For the Royal Bank of India,
Alfred Lawson, Manager.
For the Comptoir d' Escompte de' Paris, Bombay Agency.
O. Muller, Manager.
For the Bombay Joint Stock Corporation, Limited,
H. Coke, Manager.

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary Chamber of Commerce.

Bombay, 23rd June 1865.

No. 1618 of 1865.

From C. Gonne, Esq.,

Secretary to Government, Bombay.

To the Secretary Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Judicial Department.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of the memorial addressed to His Excellency the Governor in Council by the principal merchants and bankers in Bombay and transmitted through your letter of 23rd ultimo.

2. In reply I am desired to inform you that the memorial has been submitted for the favorable consideration of the Government of India, and to request that you will move the Chamber to nominate two of their members to confer with a gentleman who will be employed by Government to draw up a draft of a bill calculated to give effect to the suggestions embodied in the memorial.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) C. Gonne,

Secretary to Government.

Kirkee, 1st July 1865.

No. 116 of 1865.

To C. Gonne, Esq.,

Secretary to Government, Judical Department, Bombay.

Sir,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1618, dated 1st instant, in reference to the memorial to His Excellency the Governor in Council from the principal merchants and bankers in Bombay, and requesting that the Chamber be moved to nominate two of their members to confer with a gentleman, who will be employed by Government to draft a bill calculated to give effect to the suggestions embodied in the memorial.

In reply I have the honor to acquaint you for the information of Government, that Alexander Stewart, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. Finlay, Scott and Co., and Chairman of the Chamber, together with Alexander Brown, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. W. Nicol and Co., have been appointed by the Committee to confer with the gentleman to be employed by Government for the purpose above mentioned.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) James Taylor,

Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 5th July 1865.

No. 2021 OF 1865.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

From C. GONNE, Esq.,
Secretary to Government, Bombay.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 116 of 5th instant, and to state that Mr. A. R. Scoble, who has undertaken to draft the bill intended to give effect to the memorial referred to, has been requested to confer with Mr. Alexander Stewart and Mr. Alexander Brown, the two gentlemen nominated by the Chamber on any points on which it may be necessary to obtain a professional mercantile opinion.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) C. GONNE,
Secretary to Government.

Kirkee, 11th July 1865.

No. 2659 OF 1865.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—Adverting to your letter No. 116, dated the 5th ultimo, I am directed by the Hon'ble the Governor in Council to convey through the Chamber of Commerce, the thanks of Government to Messrs. Alexander Stewart and Alexander Brown, for the assistance rendered by those gentlemen to Mr. Scoble in respect to the draft bill for the more speedy liquidation of Insolvent traders' estates in Bombay.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) C. GONNE,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 10th August, 1865.

APPENDIX C.

WORKING OF THE INDIAN TELEGRAPH.

FRAUDS IN THE INDIAN ELECTIC TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

To the MEMBERS of the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

GENTLEMEN,—The Committee of the Chamber having had under consideration at their last meeting, the condition of the Electric Telegraph Department, more particularly, the branch of the Telegraph which conveys messages between Ceylon and Bombay, its normal state of disorder, and the constant irregularity in the working, on almost every occasion of the arrival of the steamer from Suez bringing messages to Galle for transmission to this part of India,—leading but too certainly to the conclusion, that the signallers must be tampered with, and frauds of an infamous character, almost uniformly perpetrated ;—arrived at the conclusion, that probably no plan for the discovery of these frauds is so likely to be effective—as that of offering a substantial reward to any person or persons who may, on the strength of such an inducement be led to give information that may lead to the detection and ultimate conviction of the perpetrators.

The Committee are farther of opinion that if a sum of five thousand rupees (Rs. 5000) were subscribed for the purposes of offering a reward and of defraying the cost of any prosecution it might hereafter be found necessary to enter upon, important results might reasonably be expected to follow thereon.

I am accordingly directed by the Committee to place the matter before the members of the Chamber that they may consider the subject, and have an opportunity of subscribing the necessary funds to meet all costs in carrying out a scheme so desirable. Subscribers will please to enter the amount of their subscriptions in the annexed list.—I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 12th October 1864.

*** It is not intended to call up the subscriptions till the money is actually required.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Names of the Subscribers.	Amount.	Names of the Subscribers.	Amount.
	Rs.		Rs.
Messrs. Ashburner, Bell and Co.....	200	Messrs. Passmore & Co.	200
„ Bates, (Edward) and Co.....	200	„ Peel, Cassels & Co.....	200
„ Brice (A. C.) & Co.....	200	„ Ralli Brothers..	200
„ Campbell, Mitchell and Co..	200	„ Rennie Scovell and Co.....	200
„ Cardwell, Parsons and Co..	200	„ Ritchie, Steuart and Co.....	200
„ Classon (H) and Co.....	200	„ Robinson & Co.	200
„ Comber Son and Co.....	200	„ Roper, Price and Co.....	200
„ Ewart, Latham and Co.....	200	„ Sassoon (David) and Co.....	200
„ Finlay, Clarke and Co.....	200	„ Seigfried and Co.	200
„ Finlay, Scott & Co.....	200	„ Sigg, (J) and Co.	200
Framjee, Sands and Co.....	200	„ Soojawooden Tyabjee & Co..	200
„ Fulcher, Cooper and Co.....	200	„ Stoehr, Prieger and Co.....	200
„ Gaddum and Co.	200	„ Wadias (J. N. Sons) and Co.	200
„ Graham (W & A) and Co.....	200	„ Wallace and Co.	200
„ Grey and Co...	200	„ Watson, Bogle and Co.....	200
„ Huschke (A.H.)	200	„ Chartered Bank of India Australia and China.....	200
„ Killick, Nixon.	200	„ Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London & China..	200
„ King (J.S) & Co.	200	„ Comptoir d' Escompte de Paris.....	200
„ Lawrence & Co.	200	„ Financial Association of India and China, Limited.....	200
„ Leckie and Co...	200	„ Hindustan, China and Japan Bank, Limited.....	200
„ Lyon, Brothers and Co.....	200		
„ Macdonald (Chas) & Co..	100		
„ Macindoe, Rogers and Co..	200		
„ Martin, Young and Co.....	200		
„ Nasmyth & Co..	200		
„ Nicol (William) and Co.....	200		

No. 137.

To E. RAVENSCROFT, Esq.,

Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
Bombay.

SIR—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acquaint you for the information of Government, that the Chamber, having had under consideration the complaints regarding the working of the Electric Telegraph in India, in respect to the numerous delays and stoppages in the transmission of messages, leading to the supposition that they are the result of fraud—has resolved to offer a reward of rupees five thousand to be given to any one who will come forward and give information that may lead to the apprehension and conviction of the guilty parties.

A copy of the announcement made by the Chamber to the foregoing effect, I have the honour to enclose herewith.*

The Committee, feeling assured the step they have taken in this matter in the interests of the public will meet with the approbation of Government—have farther instructed me respectfully to request the aid of His Excellency the Governor in Council, in circulating hand-bills of the advertisement, in getting copies placarded in a prominent place in every telegraph office, in invoking the co-operation of the Governments of India and the Governments of the other Presidencies, and in such other ways as to the Government may seem expedient.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 24th October 1864.

---

*Rs. 5,000 REWARD.

Whereas it appears that Delays and Stoppages frequently occur in the transmission of Messages by Electric Telegraph in India, and in particular between Galle and Bombay after the arrival at the former Port of the English Mail steamer; and such delays can only be accounted for on the supposition that they are the result of fraud:—THE BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE hereby offer a Reward of RUPEES FIVE THOUSAND to any one who will come forward and give such information as shall lead to the apprehension and conviction of the guilty parties.

A. C. GUMPERT, Chairman.
JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 24th October 1864.

No. 2172 OF 1864.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To The SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter marginally noted, and to state, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, that copies of the advertisement therein referred to, with its translation into Vernacular languages, will be sent to the Magistrates and Political Officers at this Presidency, with directions to have them posted in all towns and villages where there are Telegraph stations, or through which the wire runs.

No. 137, dated 24th October 1864, with accompaniment, being an advertisement offering a reward of Rupees 5,000 for such information as shall lead to the apprehension and conviction of the parties supposed to be guilty of tampering with the Mail Messages sent by Electric Telegraph between Galle and Bombay.

2. I am, at the same time, desired to state that copies of your letter, and of the advertisement therein referred to, have been sent to the Governments of India, Madras, and Ceylon.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) E. RAVENSCROFT,
Offg. Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 14th December 1864.

No. 341 OF 1865.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce Bombay; with reference to para. 2 of Government Letter No. 2172, dated 14th December last

(Signed) E. RAVENSCROFT,
Offg. Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 27th February 1865.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Colombo, 8th February 1865.

To the SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

SIR,—Having laid before His Honor the officer administering the Government your letter No. 2171, of the 14th December last, I am directed to transmit to you for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor of Bombay in Council the annexed copy of a Circular addressed to the Government Agents and Magistrates in those districts in Ceylon through which the wire runs.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) W. T. GIBSON.

(*Circular.*)

Bombay, 24th October 1864.

SIR,—I am directed by His Honor the Officer administering the Government to transmit to you copies of a Notice issued by the Chamber of Commerce of Bombay, offering a reward of five thousand rupees for such information as shall lead to the apprehension and conviction of the parties supposed to be guilty of tampering with the mail messages sent by Electric Telegraph, between Galle and Bombay; and to request that you will cause the notice to be posted at the Telegraph station in your province, and in the villages through which the wire runs.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) LIONEL F. LEE.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. F. W.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Colombo, January 26th 1865.

The Government Agent, Western Province.
Do. do. Southern do.
Do. do. Eastern do.
Do. do. Northern do.
Do. do. Central do.
The Police Magistrate, Colombo.
Do. do. Galle.
Do. do. Kandy.
Do. do. Dambool.
Do. do. Manaar.
Do. do. Trincomalee.

No. 138 of 1864.

To the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce,
Calcutta, Madras and Kurrachee,
No. 139 of 1864.
No. 140 of 1864.

Sir,—I am directed to inform you that the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce having had under consideration the state of the Galle Telegraph, the irregularity of its working, the frequent delays, and the almost constant interruptions on the line immediately after the arrival of the Mail steamer from Suez; have been forced to the conclusion that the interruptions are caused by fraud in some way, and that the signallers must be tampered with.

The Committee have accordingly moved the Chamber to offer a reward to any person or persons who will come forward and give such information as may lead to the apprehension and alternate conviction of the perpetrators.

The matter has been taken up very heartily by the members of the Chamber generally, a considerable amount has been subscribed towards a fund for defraying all costs, and the Committee are now about to put forth an advertisement in the newspapers offering a reward of Rupees 5000 to any one who will give information that may lead to the discovery of the evil doers.

I am accordingly further directed to request you will have the goodness to place this letter before the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce for the information of the members, in the hope that they will afford us their friendly co-operation by subscriptions and otherwise, to enable the Committee to carry out an object so important to the interests of the mercantile community in every part of India.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) James Taylor,
Secretary.

Bombay, 23*rd October* 1865.

No. 143, 144 and 145 of 1865.

To the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta.

Dear Sir,—Referring to my letter of the 22nd ultimo, I have by the direction of the Committee, forwarded to your address by

dak, a packet containing 25 copies of the enclosed hand-bill, which they trust the Calcutta Chamber will cause to be disposed of in such manner as may seem best, in furtherance of the purpose in view.—I am, dear Sir, your most obedient servant,

And also

To Madras, to Kurrachee.

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, 4th November 1865.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, to acknowledge receipt of your letters of the 22nd ultimo and 4th instant, and to inform you that the hand-bills received under cover of the latter have been posted by the Chief Commissioner of Police in various parts of the City.

The Committee trust that your endeavours to detect the fraudulent tampering with the Telegraph Department will not be unsuccessful, and they desire me to say that this Chamber will cordially contribute towards the expenses that may be incurred in any case which may form the subject of a criminal prosecution.—I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) H. W. WOOD,
Secretary.

Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, 26th November 1864.

From H. TOLPUTT Esq.,
Chairman Chamber of Commerce, Madras.

To the CHAIRMAN BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—The offer of a Reward, by the Bombay Chamber, of Rs. 5000 to any one who will give information that may lead to the discovery of the persons who interrupt the line of telegraphic communication between Galle and Bombay immediately after the

arrival of the Overland Mail steamer at the former port, has been cordially approved by the members of this Chamber, and I am desired to state that this Chamber guarantee to contribute Rs. 1000 towards the said Reward.

The Chamber has taken every possible means to give publicity to the advertisement in this coast.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) H. TOLPUTT,
Chairman.

Chamber of Commerce Madras, 28th November 1864.

From the CHAIRMAN of the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Kurrachee.

To the SECRETARY of the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that your letters of the 26th October and 4th November have come to hand and have been before the Committee. The delay in replying is owing to the absence of the Secretary.

The Committee while fully recognizing the necessity of taking steps to discover the causes of the present disgraceful mode of working the telegraph in India, wish to point out that many of the firms at this place are branches of Bombay houses, and consequently will leave to them the task of aiding substantially the carrying out of this object.

The lively interest taken in the matter by the members of your Chamber, and the great means at their command, leave no doubt in the mind of this Committee that all pecuniary aid which may be wanted to carry out the object, will easily be met with in Bombay.

In the meantime the Committee, as well as the members of the Chamber, will do their best to help in every other way in promoting your object; and I may add that the hand-bills you sent have been distributed.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant.

(Signed) A. E. DENSO,
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce.

Kurrachee, 10th December 1864.

To S. L. ACLAND, Esq.,
Solicitor, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce to request the aid of your valuable professional services to conduct the prosecution on behalf of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce of the case in reference to telegraph frauds, now pending at the Police office. The case in a public point of view is of the utmost importance, and the Committee are of opinion that the pending prosecution, which they take up entirely on public grounds will be cared for as well as it possibly can be, when placed in your hands.

* * * * *

I am, dear Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber Commerce, 14th January 1865.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to Chamber of Commerce.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant requesting me to conduct the prosecution on behalf of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce in the case of the telegraph frauds now pending at the Police Court.

I shall have much pleasure in acting on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, and I trust that the result may be found to justify the very flattering terms in which my proposed connection with the case is alluded to.

* * * * *

I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) S. LAWFORD ACLAND.

Bombay, 21st January 1865.

No. 34 OF 1865.

To C. GONNE, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to Government, Judicial Department,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce respectfully to call the attention of Government to the present position in the Fort Police Court of the case of alleged frauds in the Electric Telegraph Department, the prosecution of which was instituted by the Chamber in the beginning of the present year.

2. *First.*—On Friday the 6th of January last two signallers, were brought before the Chief Magistrate of Police, and their evidence incriminating certain persons was taken at a private sitting.

Second.—On Wednesday the 11th January a second sitting of the same character took place.

Third.—On Wednesday 18th January that was an examination of witnesses in open Court, when the case was adjourned till Wednesday the 25th idem.

Fourth.—On Wednesday the 25th January a short hearing took place when the case was adjourned to Wednesday the 1st February.

Fifth.—On Wednesday the 1st February the case did not come on in consequence of the absence of the Magistrate.

Sixth.—On Wednesday the 8th February the case came on again and there was a short hearing, when it was adjourned to the 15th.

Seventh.—On Wednesday the 15th February the case was again shortly gone into, and then adjourned till Friday the 17th.

Eighth.—On Friday the 17th the case did not come on, in consequence of the indisposition of the Chief Magistrate of Police, and there has been nothing done in the matter since.

3. From the foregoing statement of facts—it appears, the case has been before the principal Police Court in Bombay for more than two months, and that during that period, there have been only six short hearings: all the witnesses for the prosecution have not been examined, and no cross-examinations or statements of any kind for the defence have yet been made.

4. *When* the hearing of the case will be resumed, unless Government interferes, no one can say, but even if it were resumed

to-morrow if it is to be continued after the fashion in which it has hitherto been conducted,—it seems but too probable the case will utterly break down.

5. Government is not ignorant of the character and peculiar position of the principal witnesses for the prosecution, and if the case is further delayed, they may fail the prosecution altogether, at the most critical moment.

6. It is not for the Committee to suggest a course,—but they feel that they would fail in their duty to the Chamber and the public, if they refrained from bringing to the notice of Government a state of affairs which, if not promptly remedied, may, in the present case, lead to an entire frustration of the course of justice.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commeroe, 10th March 1865.

No. 761 OF 1865.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 10th instant, and to request that you will be so good as to convey the thanks of Government to the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce for bringing to notice the delay in the disposal of the case referred to by you.

2. I am alse desired to inform you that Government called on the Senior Magistrate of Police for an explanation on the subject and that his explanation is considered satisfactory.

3. The Hon'ble the Governor in Council is glad to learn that the case has at last been committed.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. BIRDWOOD,
Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 28th March 1865.

No. 69 OF 1865.

To S. L. ACLAND, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—The Committee of the Chamber desire me te request you will be good enough to furnish me with a Memo. of the amount of all costs incurred in the late prosecution for frauds in the Telegraph Department to enable me to make a correct account of the expenses incurred by the Chamber in this matter.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 6th April 1865.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

DEAR SIR,—With reference to your enquiry of to-day we beg to inform you that our charges in the prosecution of Jeykissondass Hurkissondass and others amount to Rs. 2000.—We remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) ACLAND, PRENTIS, AND BISHOP.

Bombay, 8th April 1865.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary Chamber of Commerce.

DEAR SIR,—You have no doubt learnt from the public newspapers that the prosecution of Jeykissondass Hurkissondass and his three brothers for bribing telegraph signallers has been brought to a successful termination, and that they have each been sentenced to six months' imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rupees 5,000, and I now address you for the purposes of bringing to the notice of the Chamber that the success of the prosecution was in a great measure owing to the very careful manner in which the case was got up by Mr. Constable Mills.—I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) ACLAND, PRENTIS, AND BISHOP.

Bombay, 7th April 1865.

No. 72 of 1865.

To Messrs. Acland, Prentis, and Bishop,

Bombay.

Dear Sirs,—Referring to my letter to Mr. Acland of the 10th instant, I have now the pleasure to hand you herewith the sum of Rs. 7,200 for disposal as follows:—

First.—The sum of five thousand rupees, being the amount of the reward offered by the Chamber of Commerce, the Committee suggest may be divided between —— and —— the former to receive three thousand rupees and the latter rupees two thousand.

Second.—In reference to your letter to me of the 7th instant, reporting to the Chamber the good service rendered by Mr. Constable Mills in the late prosecution for Telegraph Frauds by the careful manner in which he got up the case, the Committee desire to present him with the sum of Rupees two hundred in acknowlegment of their sense of his services, and on this point I shall communicate with Mr. Souter, Commissioner of Police, that he may get the permission of Government to Mr. Constable Mill's acceptance of the persent.

Third.—The remaning sum of Rs. 2,000 is in liquidation of your own account as mentioned in your note to me of the 8th instant, with the acknowledgments of the Committee for the efficient manner in which you conducted the prosecution.

* * * * *

I remain, dear Sirs, your obedient servant,

(Signed) James Taylor.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 20th April 1865.

To James Taylor, Esq.,

Secretary Chamber of Commerce.

Dear Sir,—We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date enclosing Notes for Rs. 7,200. (Rs. 5,200 for rewards and Rs. 2,000 the amount of our charges) for which we are obliged;—and we beg to thank the Committee for their courteous acknowledgment of our assistance in the matter.

Your request to us to settle with the claimants to the reward shall receive our best attention.—We are, dear Sir, your obedient servants,

(Signed) Acland, Prentis, and Bishop.

Bombay, 20th April 1865.

No. 74 of 1865.

To F. Souter, Esq.,

Superintendent of Police, Bombay.

Sir,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce to inform you that in consequence of Messrs. Acland and Prentis, Solicitors to the Chamber in the late prosecution for frauds in the Electric Telegraph, having represented to them, how much the successful issue in the prosecution resulted from the careful manner in which the case was got up by Mr. Constable Mills,—the Committee have resolved to present Mr. Mills with the sum of Rs. 200 as an acknowledgment of the sense they entertain of the services he rendered in the prosecution in question.

This amount is lodged with Messrs. Acland and Prentis for the purpose of being presented to Mr. Mills, on the consent of Government being given to his receiving the amount in consideration of the circumstances mentioned; and I am directed by the Committee to request you will do them the favor to place the matter before Government accordingly.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) James Taylor,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 24th April 1865.

To the Members of the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Gentlemen,—Referring to the reward of Rupees 5,000 offered by the Chamber in October last, to any one who would come forward and give information that might lead to the apprehension and conviction of any person or persons guilty of perpetrating frauds in the Electric Telegraph Department; and the subscriptions entered into by members to raise funds for the above purpose, and also to meet the cost of any prosecution the Committee might find it expedient to institute:—

You are all now of course well aware, that owing to certain information given to the Committee, a prosecution was instituted against four persons, who were tried, convicted, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment and a fine each of Rupees 5,000 at the last Criminal Sessions.

The expenses incurred by the Chamber in connexion with this prosecution including the reward, amount to Rupees 7,600 as per memorandum herewith annexed.

The appeal made on this subject by the Committee, when they proposed to offer a reward was so liberally responded to by the members, that the full amount of their subscriptions will not be required.

From each of the forty-six members of the Chamber who each subscribed the sum of Rupees 200, it is proposed to levy the sum of Rupees 164, which with the proportionate amount levied on a smaller subscription, will cover all the expenses that have been incurred.

I am now, therefore, directed by the Committee to request the members will be good enough to pay their subscriptions as mentioned above,—noting the payment in the accompanying List when made.—I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, April 22nd 1864.

MEMORANDUM.

To amount of Reward offered by Chamber.....Rs.	5,000	0	0
„ „ Lawyer's account..... .... „	2,000	0	0
„ Present to Constable Mills for efficiently aiding in getting up the case..... „	200	0	0
„ Charges for advertising, printing and circulating hand-bills, &c., and disbursements made in connexion with the prosecution..... „	400	0	0
Rupees	7,600	0	0
By Subscriptions 46 members at Rs. 164 7,544			
„ Ditto from another member... 80			
Rupees 7,624			
„ Balance to be paid to general fund of Chamber...	24	0	0
	7,624	0	0

LIST of Subscriptions to meet the cost of the prosecution instituted by the Chamber against four persons who were convicted of perpetrating frauds in the Telegraph and for the amount of reward *paid* by the Chamber.

Names of Subscribers.	Amount originally subscribed.	Amount actually required.	When paid.
	Bs.	Rs.	
Messrs. Bates (Edward) and Co...	200	164	27th April 1865.
,, Brice (A. C.) and Co....	200	164	26th ,, ,,
,, Campbell, Mitchell and Co...	200	164	26th ,, ,,
,, Cardwell, Parsons and Co.	200	164	29th ,, ,,
,, Classon (H.) and Co...	200	164	27th ,, ,,
,, Comber, Son and Co...	200	164	27th ,, ,,
,, Ewart, Latham and Co....	200	164	
,, Finlay, Clark and Co...	200	164	26th ,, ,,
,, Finlay, Scott and Co...	200	164	25th ,, ,,
,, Framjee, Sands and Co.	200	164	2nd May ,,
,, Fulcher, Cooper and Co...	200	164	29th ,, ,,
,, Gaddum and Co...	200	164	1st ,, ,,
,, Graham, (W. & A.) and Co...	200	164	26th April ,,
,, Grey and Co.	200	164	26th ,, ,,
,, Huschke (A. H.) and Co...	200	164	27th ,, ,,
,, Killick, Nixon and Co...	200	164	27th ,, ,,
,, King, (J. S.) and Co...	200	164	27th ,, ,,
,, Lawrence and Co...	200	164	27th ,, ,,
,, Lockie and Co...	200	164	2nd May ,,
,, Lyon, Brothers and Co...	200	164	25th April ,,
,, Macdonald (Charles) and Co.	100	80	25th ,, ,,
,, Macindoe, Rodgers and Co.... ...	200	164	2nd May ,,
,, Martin, Young and Co.	200	164	29th April ,,
,, Nasmyth and Co...	200	164	26th ,, ,,
,, Nicol, (William) and Co...	200	164	3rd May ,,
,, Passmore and Co...	200	164	8th ,, ,,
,, Peel, Cassels and Co...	200	164	1st ,, ,,
,, Ralli, Brothers and Co...	200	164	2nd ,, ,,
,, Rennie, Scovell and Co...	200	164	2nd ,, ,,
,, Ritchie, Steuart and Co...	200	164	1st ,, ,,
,, Robinson and Co....	200	164	27th April ,,
,, Roper, Price and Co....	200	164	27th ,, ,,
,, Sassoon, (David) and Co...	200	164	4th May ,,
,, Seigfried and Co...	200	164	27th April ,,
,, Sigg and Co...	200	164	1st May ,,
,, Soojawooden Tyabjee and Co... ...	200	164	1st ,, ,,
,, Storehr, Prieger and Co....	200	164	1st ,, ,,
,, Wadias (J. N. Sons) and Co... ...	200	164	31st ,, ,,
,, Wallace and Co.	200	164	25th April ,,
,, Watson, Podo and Co...	200	164	27th ,, ,,
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China..	200	164	3rd May ,,
Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China...	200	164	3rd ,, ,,
Comptoir d' Escompte de Paris.	200	164	4th ,, ,,
Financial Association of India and China, Limited....	200	164	8th ,, ,,
Hindustan, China and Japan Bank, Limited. ...	200	164	4th ,, ,,

INEFFICIENCY OF THE TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

No. 2166 of 1864.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed to request that you will be so good as to move the Chamber of Commerce to favor Government with an early reply to Mr. Under-Secretary Jacomb's letter No. 1459, dated the 22nd August last.*—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

* Relative to the working of the Electric Telegraph Department.

(Signed) E. RAVENSCROFT,
Officiating Chief Secertary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 12th December 1864.

To the MEMBERS of the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed by the Committee to inform you that, in reference to a communication forwarded from the Chamber to Government some months ago on the working of the Electric Telegraph in India, in which it was said "the working of the telegraph department is still so bad as seriously to affect its usefulness;" a letter has been received from Government requesting "that the Chamber will have the goodness to support their opinion, if possible, by facts," and pressing for a reply as early as possible.

I am therefore instructed by the Committee to request that members will be good enough to favor them with any facts that may be within their own knowledge and experience, bearing on such points as delay, irregularity and inaccuracy in the messages which they receive. Communications bearing on these points, should be sent to me at the earliest convenience of members.—I remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 20th December 1864.

---

* Vide Report for 1863-64 page 46.

To E. RAVENSCROFT, Esq.,
Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—Referring to your letter, No. 2166 of 1864, dated 12th December, requesting the Chamber of Commerce to favour Government with an early reply to a former communication, No. 1459, dated 22nd August last, wherein the Chamber is requested to support "by facts if possible" its previously recorded opinion of the working of the Electric Telegraph in India that it was "so bad as seriously to affect its usefulness":—

2. I have now the honor to inform you that, the Committee in conformity with the wishes of Government, brought the subject specially to the notice of the members of the Chamber with a view to the Committee being furnished with all the facts that could within a reasonable period be adduced by the members regarding their experience on all points bearing on the working of the telegraph.

3. The request of the Committee has been well responded to by the members of the Chamber; a copious collection of facts detailing the experience of all the leading firms has been placed at the disposal of the Committee, and I am now directed to place the substance of these before you for the information of Government.

1st.—One of the principal firms, having great experience of the working of the Indian Telegraph in every branch of any importance, thus reports to the Committee: Regarding the Calcutta line in a series of 46 message during last year, the average time taken in the delivery of messages between Calcutta and Bombay has been three and a half days. In this number, one of the messages occupied 13 days, others have taken 9, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3 and 2 days; only about a fourth of the number having been received within twenty-four hours. On the Madras line in a series of 28 messages the average was two days and four-fifths; two-thirds of these having occupied more than two days, in transit. On the South Coast line, including all places between Bombay and Tuticorin, the average in a series of 54 messages was two days; only about half the number being received in twenty-four hours, the other half having taken from 2 to 6 days. The firm point out that as a steamer from Bombay to Vingorla, makes the passage in 18 hours, and to Carwar in 24 hours, the use of the telegraph as a means of communication to these places is superseded by letters sent by the steamers. On the

Kurrachee line, in a series of 29 messages, 17 were received in one day, the remainder taking between two and four days. On the line between Galle and Bombay out of eleven messages, seven were received in 24 hours, the others occupying periods varying from three to eight days, the average on the whole being two and a half days. The principal partner of the firm in question was at Ahmedabad when the arrival of the London Mail of 18th November last was signalled from Bombay, the line broke down immediately afterwards, and he was informed that the same thing occurred on the arrival of each Mail. The experience of this firm points to the Kurrachee branch as being one of the most unsatisfactory, as rarely or ever does the Mail arrive without an interruption following. This firm give an opinion to the effect that all the leading lines are over-crowded, that messages are occasionally not sent forward from this cause till so late a date that it is not worth while sending at all.

2nd.—Another firm giving their experience of the Calcutta line during October, November and December last, mention that in a series of 13 messages, one occupied 8 days, another 6, others 4, 3 and 2 days in transmission out of 13 messages, only 2 were received in 24 hours, the average being 3 days for each message in a period of three months. As regards accuracy the firm find some improvement of late, but little in the time taken in transmission. They mention having ceased to use the Galle line for messages from England, as they invariably received them at so late a date as to be quite useless.

3rd.—Firm No. 3, state that "messages from Calcutta and Madras never reach us under two or three days and are frequently much longer in transmission." Regarding Galle telegrams the same firm state that on several occasions during the past year they have "received copies by post before the originals came to hand."

4th.—Firm No. 4, reporting on the Calcutta line mention that a telegram sent on 26th July last reached its destination only on the 7th August. A refund was applied for, but at the end of the year when the report was sent to the Committee the matter was still unsettled. Regarding the Madras line this firm report that messages on several occasions have taken from three to five days in transmission. A telegram despatched from Colombo to Bombay on the 1st November was not received at the close of last year.

5th.—Firm No. 5, report that messages from Calcutta and Madras "seldom reach us under two to three days and are often received in such unintelligible form as to be quite useless." "Telegrams from Galle during the last six months have almost invariably reached us three or four days later than the general published messages, and on many occasions copies have been received by post before the originals came to hand."

6th.—Firm No. 6 Report.—"We seldom receive a telegram from Calcutta in less than three days and frequently the same advice has reached us quicker by post." A telegram of 13 words despatched from Calcutta on the 2nd November was received in Bombay on the 11th, while the same advice sent by post on the 3rd was received on the 10th outstripping the telegraph by two days. A telegram for Calcutta taken to the telegraph office on the 12th December was refused because the line was taken up for the day, it was sent on the 13th and 14th with like result: it was received the day following, but when despatched was unknown. The opinion of this firm is "that at least two of the main lines are unequal to the work thrown on them."

7th.—Firm No. 7 Report.—Two telegrams sent to Calcutta on the 28th and 30th July were delivered, the first on the 8th August and the second on the 7th August, with serious inaccuracies. A telegram of 15 words despatched from Colombo on the 29th September was only received in Bombay on the 3rd October.

8th.—Firm No. 8 Report.—Two messages from Ahmedabad sent on 20th and 22nd June, both reached Bombay on the 25th, one taking three, the other five days in transmission. A message from Kurrachee despatched on 17th May was received on the 20th. Another from same place despatched 25th July was received on 1st August taking 7 days. A message from Tellicherry dated 27th April was received on 1st May. One from Calicut dated 3rd June was received on 7th. "Galle messages take from two to five days."

9th.—Firm No. 9 Report.—"That two days seem to be the minimum" between Calcutta and Bombay, though experience shows three days to be the average. "The Galle line has been too notorious of late to require any substantiation from us." "An important message despatched

from Galle on the 21st October reached us only on the 27th idem." "We repeatedly receive messages from the Malabar Coast by post before the wire has done its work. From Ahmedabad we receive telegrams in from two to three days." "We find the Madras line to be on the whole the most efficient of those we have occasion to use." "We have little complaint to make as to the correctness of messages."

10th.—Firm No. 10 Report.—Calcutta telegrams seldom reach in less than three days but frequently four or five days. A message dated 11th November was not received till the 18th; the news it conveyed having reached us by post two hours earlier.

11th.—Firm No. 11 Report.—That in a series of 13 messages between Cochin and Bombay from October to December the average was two and a half days. Some of the messages taking four days, others three and two days only; one having been received in one day.

12th.—Firm No. 12 Report.—We tried for about six months to send telegrams to England via Galle, but not more than three of them arrived in time, though three days were allowed for the telegrams to reach in proper time for the steamer. From Kurrachee we seldom receive telegrams under two days, from Calcutta three to six days. On the 18th November we received a telegram, dated 11th November, a letter confirming same having arrived previously.

13th.—Firm No. 13 Report.—"We are in the habit of sending a message by telegraph to our Kurrachee house, but in every instance it is received only after arrival of the steamer at Kurrachee and therefore is useless." Telegrams to and from Cochin and Ceylon shew great irregularity in transmission the time occupied being from three to four days.

14th.—Firm No. 14 Report.—On the arrival of the Mail of the 18th November here, we sent to the Telegraph Office a telegram for Madras, but it was returned two days with the answer "line full," we did not send again as it was too late for our object in despatching it. The Galle line we have given up using.

15th.—Firm No. 15 Report.—That in a series of ten telegrams from Colombo, Calcutta and Kurrachee, received in October and November last, average time in transmission was three days. Some of the telegrams occupied 7, 4, 3,

and 2 days, only 2 out of 10 being received in 24 hours. The firm report having long given up the Galle line "owing to the great delay experienced." "As to wording our telegrams usually reach us very correctly."

16th.—Firm No. 16 Report.—"Our Galle telegrams have reached us invariably so late, often later than the copies of the same sent by letter, that we have written home to discontinue them altogether." We have much correspondence with Calcutta, Madras and Cochin, and we find messages take on an average three days in transmission. "It happens, however, very often that messages miscarry altogether, and that we receive copies by post sooner than the messages by wire."

17th.—Firm No. 17 Report.—That in a series of nine messages from Colombo, Calcutta, Kurrachee and Coconada; one took 8 days, three 6 days, four 5 days, and one 3 days in transmission. "As a rule we connot complain of the accuracy of the telegrams."

18th.—Firm No. 18 Report.—"During the past year our messages from Galle arrive here only after the arrival of our own mail steamer and very frequently they never reach here at all, so that we intend writing our London friends to discontiune telegraphing via Galle altogether."

4. The foregoing paras. 1 to 18 give evidence on the working of the telegraph from eighteen different firms, and amougst these are included the principal mercantile firms in Bombay. It is unnecessary to swell the list as all the evidence laid before the Committee is entirely of the same character. The Committee trust enough has been detailed to enable Government to test the accuracy of the former report of the Chamber:—that "the working of the telegraph was so bad as seriously to affect its usefulness."—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 6th Feburary, 1865.

PRESS PRIVILEGES IN THE TRANSMISSION OF MESSAGES.

No. 146 of 1864.

To E. Ravenscroft, Esq.,

Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,—I had the honour to address you on the 24th ult. for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, in reference to certain proceedings taken by the Chamber of Commerce with a view to discover the perpetrators of supposed frauds in connexion with the transmission of messages by Electric Telegraph in India; and asking for the co-operation and the aid of Government in carrying out the scheme which the Committee deemed it expedient to adopt.

2. I am now directed by the Committee of the Chamber, respectfully to bring under the notice of Government, another subject pertaining to the Electric Telegraph Department, which has recently been matter of public scandal, and which, as affairs are at present conducted, affects injuriously the interests of the mercantile portion of the community.

3. A few years ago, when by order of the Government of India, a practice was discontinued which previously prevailed of transmitting and publishing telegrams of public news on the arrival at Galle and other ports of the English Mail, at the public expense;—the privilege was accorded to newspapers of having precedence for their telegraphic messages over all telegrams to the address of other parties, whether private persons or public bodies;—expressly on the grounds that press messages were presumed to be news messages and that they should be made public as early as practicable after receipt.

4. Government are doubtless very well aware, that, ever since high prices in cotton have prevailed consequent on the American Civil War, and the cessation of a cotton supply from the Southern States,—there has been the strongest desire in all the cotton marts of India, but more particularly in Bombay, to have the latest possible intelligence of the state of the cotton market at home, and of all political news likely to affect the same; and that to obtain the latest information on these vital points by Electric Telegraph, many merchants incur enormous expense.

5. In regard, however, to the messages received viâ Galle, to which most importance is attached—no amount of private enterprise can successfully compete with the newspapers, so long as

the latter retain the privilege conceded to them, of their messages being allowed precedence of all others, with the exception of those for the Government itself.

6. Had this privilege to the press in the matter of telegrams, been exercised in the spirit in which it was conceded, and been used solely in the interests of the public at large, merchants and others, might have continued quietly to acquiesce in the arrangement, though it worked to their disadvantage; but when a privilege conceded in the supposed service of the public interests—has been grossly abused to serve private ends, Government cannot be surprised that the Chamber, on behalf of the mercantile community should deem it a duty to remonstrate.

7. It has for some time been matter of common belief, that certain of the newspapers in Bombay were trading on the advantages which they possess, by the favour of Government, in respect to the transmission of telegrams, over the rest of the community—but proof of the fact was not easily attainable.

8. A recent controversy, however, of a personal character between the two leading papers here, has in this particular instance at all events—redounded to the public advantage, rendering any farther attempts to obtain proof of what I have stated quite superfluous; as in the course of the controversy, the admission of the sale of its telegrams received via Galle, was frankly made by one of the papers, (see *Bombay Gazette*, October 24th, 1864), and this paper has charged the other of being guilty of the same practice, in such definite terms that the latter appears to be unable to meet the charge with a definite and distinct denial.

9. This practice is not confined to the English portion of the press, it is known to be followed also by the native papers; particularly the daily papers published in the Gujerathi language, some of which are, with good reason, believed to be in the custom of allowing private persons, for a consideration, to have telegrams addressed to the Manager or Editor of these papers, in order that they may receive them earlier than they otherwise would, and the telegrams are not usually published in the papers afterwards.

10. If the newspapers possessed no exclusive advantages in respect to the transmission of their telegrams, the Chamber would have no right to call upon Government to interfere, as the propriety of newspapers selling telegrams, or the news received by telegrams procured at their own expense, is a subject on which, it is not within the province of the Chamber to pronounce any opinion; but the Committee are bound in the interests of the public, to ask Government to rescind a privilege which is confessedly abused,

and place the press, in the matters of telegram privileges, on precisely the same footing as the rest of the public.

11. I need hardly mention for the information of Government, that no special privilege is permitted in England to the press in reference to the transmission of telegraphic messages; the rule of "first come first served" is applied to all messages received in England for transmission to India, whether for the press or private parties, and the Committee consider that in all equity the same rule should be applied to the transmission of messages from Galle to and throughout India, itself.

12. I have, therefore, respectfully to request that in the event of its not being in the power of the Government of Bombay to decide this matter on their own authority, they may be pleased to transmit this letter to the Government of India, with their favourable recommendation that the suggestion of the Committee in the interests of the public may speedily be complied with.

In conclusion, I am to state that though the members of the Chamber of Commerce desire for themselves no special privileges in the matter of telegrams, I am directed by the Committee to mention that should Government think it expedient to have a public telegram conveying commercial intelligence and grant the privilege to the Chamber of their messages having precedence of all others, they will undertake to publish the same immediately on receipt by posting them outside the Chamber office for the benefit of the public at large.—I have the honour to be, Sir, &c.,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, 10th November 1864.

No. 1998 OF 1864.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I have received and will place before Government your letter No. 146, dated the 10th instant, wherein you request that the privilege now conceded to the press of allowing their telegrahic messages to take precedence of others may be rescinded, and that "the press in the matter of telegram privileges" may be placed "on precisely the same footing as the rest of the public."

2. I quite remember the admission made by the *Bombay Gazette* as regards that journal; but I do not exactly remember that a similar charge was made against the *Times of Irdia* and remained unrefuted or unnoticed. Before placing your letter, therefore, before the Governor in Council, may I request you will inform me in what issue of the *Gazette* the allegation was made. —I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) E. RAVENSCROFT,
Offg. Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 16th November 1864.

No. 152 OF 1864.

To E. RAVENSCROFT, ESQ.,
Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge your letter No. 1998, dated this day, and in reply beg to refer you to the number of the *Bombay Gazette* mentioned in my letter of the 10th instant, namely October 24th 1864, in a leading article in which you will find the admission of the sale of telegrams on the part of that paper—and also the charge against the *Times of India* made in very strong terms.

The Committee trust there will be no delay in placing my letter of the 10th instant before Government.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 16th November 1864.

No. 2175 OF 1864.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to state for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, that

a copy of your letter No 146, dated the 10th ultimo, has this day been forwarded to the Government of India.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) E. RAVENSCROFT,
Offg. Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 14th December 1864.

No. 1353 OF 1865.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Officiating Chief Secretary Ravenscroft's letter No. 2175, dated 14th December last, I am directed to forward to you the accompanying copy of a letter from the Under Secretary to the Government of India No. 2245, dated 8th instant, and to request that the Chamber of Commerce will favor Government with the information therein called for.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,
Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 24th July 1865.

No. 2245.

From A. M. MONTEATH, Esq.,
Under Secretary to the Government of India,
To the CHIEF SECERTARY to the GOVERNMENT of Bombay.

SIR,—Referring to your letter of the 14th December last, No. 2174, I am directed to request that the Government of Bombay will be good enough to ascertain and report whether the evil stated by the Chamber of Commerce in its letter No. 141, dated 10th November 1864 (enclosed in the above) to result from priority of transmission being conceded to messages for the Press is still found to exist, it having been stated by the Director Ge-

neral of Telegraphs in India, in his report on the representation abovementioned that the opening of the Indo-European line would probably have put a stop to the evil, as precedence to Press messages is not given on that line, and that no message of such importance as to give it a saleable value will be likely to be sent by the mail steamers to Bombay or Galle as long as the Indo-European line is working.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. M. MONTEATH,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Simla, 8th July 1865.

No. 139 OF 1865.

To the CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge Mr. Under Secretary Jacomb's letter No. 1353, dated the 24th instant, handing copy of a letter from the Under Secretary to the Government of India, dated 8th idem, requesting to be informed whether the evil complained of by the Chamber of Commerce in its letter of 10th November last, in reference to the priority given to the press in the transmission of Overland Messages via Galle, continued to exist.

In reply I am to state that the evil complained of in the Chamber's letter of November, continued as therein described till the opening of the new line of telegraph to England viâ the Persian Gulf in March last.

On the opening however of this new line of telegraph messages sent viâ Galle ceased to be of value, and were discontinued.

As no precedence to press messages is given on the Indo-European line, the mercantile community have now nothing to complain of on this ground, and the causes which led to the evil pointed out in the Chamber's letter of 10th November last have now ceased to operate.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 31st July 1865.

APPENDIX D.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.

No. 150 of 1864.

To Julius Reuter, Esq.,
Telegraph Office, London.

Dear Sir,

1. I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th ulto. to the address of my predecessor, Mr. Brooke,—handing a statement of your account for telegrams transmitted to the Chamber of Commerce for the three months ending 10th October inclusive, showing a balance at that date in favor of the Chamber of £18-7-6d.—which appears to be correct, with the exception that a telegram costing £1-10, dated 13th September via Malta, intimating the interruption on the Malta and Alexandria line never came to hand.

2. I note your intimation that the Telegraph authorities have made a slight increase in the rates of messages to Suez which are now £3-5 for twenty words.

3. I am now directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, to call your usual prompt attention to the new telegraphic routes, establishing telegraphic communication between London and Bombay via the Persian Gulf in two ways both of which are said to be all but completed.

4. One route is through Russia via St. Petersburg to Tiflis, Teheran, Bushire and Kurrachee—the other, and more direct line is via Constantinople to Bagdad, Bussora and on to Kurrachee and Bombay by the Persian Gulf.

5. No very accurate official information regarding either of these routes has yet been given to the public in India, and no official announcement of their completion or readiness for the receipt and transmission of messages has yet been made public.

6. On these points the Chamber is now in communication with the Bombay Government, and it may be in my power to give you better information by next opportunity.

7. Meantime the Committee are anxious that not a day should, if possible, be lost in testing one or other or both of these lines as to their value and efficiency for the transmission of Telegraphic Messages between England and India: they are desirous of being first in the field in the use of either of these lines—and they rely on you, with your well known energy and thoroughly organised arrangements, to aid them, in carrying out the object they have in view.

8. The route via Russia is probably the least likely to be of service as it is said, messages sent by it may take eleven or twelve days to reach Bombay, but even in this case, it would still be ahead of the line via Suez, with this great advantage in addition, that messages might be sent any and every day in the week if required, instead of only once a week via Galle or to Bombay direct.

9. The route via Constantinople is understood to be in excellent order from London to Bagdad: from Bagdad to Bussora or Fao it is incomplete, but from the latter place to Bombay it is in working order: the break between Bagdad and the head of the Persian Gulf is supplemented by the employment of Kossids or horse riders, who manage to execute this part of the service in three or four days, and it is said a message from London to Bombay may easily be received within six days.

10. As no announcement of the opening of these lines has officially been made, it may perhaps be necessary to get the sanction of the Secretary of State for India, for the transmission of messages by them—in which case the Committee trust you will not hesitate to apply for the same in the name of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, and you may state that any experimental messages you may be able to despatch, will, on receipt, be immediately published by the Chamber for the benefit of the public at large.

11. For these experimental telegrams the cipher in use for our messages via Suez, is unsuitable; kindly therefore send them in English pending further instructions.

12. The messages should be brief; giving information merely under the following leading heads viz:—

1st.—State of Cotton market with latest quotation for fair Dhollera.

2nd.—State of piece goods market with quotation for seven pounds shirtings.

3rd.—State of money market, and finally

4th:—American or other political news likely to affect the state of all of these markets.

13. A Telegram conveying definite intelligence on all the above points may be compressed into thirty or forty words or even less; but details are left in your hands on the understanding that no telegram should exceed forty or fifty words, unless anything unusual and remarkable should occur, when of course this limit may be exceeded to give such information, as in your judgment may seem requisite.

14. It is desired that in the event of your being able to send messages by one or other, or both of these lines,—you should do so as early as may be convenient after receipt of this letter, sending say two or there messages by each route by way of experiment and then await further orders.

15. Trusting the foregoing instructions may be found sufficiently clear and intelligible to enable you to act on them, and in the hope that it may be in your power to give effect to the wishes of the Committee in this matter.—I remain, dear Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 14th November 1865.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your letter of the 14th instant, I beg to inform you that it is at present impossible to make use of the Persian Gulf telegraph for the transmission of messages from London to Bombay.

I have addressed letters on the subject to the Secretary of the India Telegraph Department and also to the Director General of Russian Telegraphs, and this morning I received their replies. That of the former (of which I annex a copy) states that the new line is not yet open for traffic, but that as soon as the arrangements for the purpose are complete due notice will be given.

The letter of the Russian Director General regarding the line via St. Petersburg and Teheran is, to a similar effect, the line is finished but cannot yet be used.

As soon, however, as either lines is available your instructions shall be strictly carried out and everything that is in my power shall be done to ensure the quick receipt of English news by you.

* * * * * *

I remain, yours truly,

(Signed) JULIUS REUTER.

London, December 19th, 1864.

To JULIUS REUTER, Esq.,

London.

DEAR SIR,—I regret that in reply to your letter of yesterday's date, I can at present say little more than that the new line of Telegraph to India is not yet open for traffic. As soon as arrangements for the purpose are complete due notice will be given to the public.

With respect to existing facilities for telegraphic communication between England and Persia, via St. Petersburgh, this office has no knowledge beyond what is afforded by the letter from Major Champain to which you refer. It is probable that further information on the point might be obtained at the Russian Embassy.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) W. T. THORNTON.

India Office, S. W., 17th December 1864.

No. 153 OF 1864.

To E. RAVENSCROFT, Esq.,

Officiating Chief Secretary, to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to address you with a view to obtain from Government accurate information on the subject of Telegraph communication between India and England via the Persian Gulf.

2. It has been reported in the newspapers that communication between Bombay and London via the Persian Gulf is complete, or nearly complete by two routes. One route being via Constantinople, the other via Teheran, Tiflis and St Petersburg, but the Chamber have hitherto, been unable to obtain reliable information with reference to either of these routes.

3. An application to the Director of Telegraphs in the Bombay Circle only elicited an answer to the effect "that as to the lines to Europe he has received no information—either official or non-official—and suggests that the Bombay Government would be the proper party to apply to."

4. Sometime ago a paragraph appeared in the newspapers purporting to be a telegraphic communication from the Government of Bombay to the Lieutenant-Governor and Commissioners in other provinces of India,' announcing that telegraphic messages could now be sent from India to England, via Teheran and St. Petersburg, but that the cost was too great to render the line suitable for general use:—the *ipsissimo verba* are not before me, but the foregoing I believe expresses the full purport of the announcement to which I refer.

5. I am desired to state in reference to this announcement,—that the Committee of the Chamber would be obliged by Government favoring them as early as may be practicable with all the information they possess in reference to the route via St. Petersburg:—when the Committee are in possession of all particulars regarding its working, they will then be in a position to judge whether the question of cost is an element likely to interfere, in the use of the line for the messages they may deem it expedient to send and to receive by it.

6. Regarding the route via Constantinople the only information the Chamber have—is gleaned from a letter of the Director of the Mekran Coast Telegraph addressed to the Commissioner in Sind and published in the newspapers a few days ago.

7. According to this letter it would seem the line via Constantinople is in working order along the entire route, with the exception of the district of country between Fao and Bagdad said to be in the course of rapid completion, and there is nothing on the face of the letter to show why the route should not be open for the receipt and transmission of messages.

8. Requesting you will have the goodness to place this letter before His Excellency the Governor in Council as early as may be convenient, in order that the Chamber may be furnished with the information required.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 17th November 1864.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

MY DEAR SIR,—I am unable immediately to write so full a reply to your letter No. 153 of 17th intant received this morning from the Chief Secretary, as is needed. But I write at once to place the Chamber in possession of the principal facts.

Communication between Kurrachee and London is complete via Bushire Teheran and St. Petersburgh.

Communication can be made via Fao, Bagdad and Constantinople, but there is an incomplete portion between Fao and Bagdad over which the messages are carried by men on camels.

The completion of the line between Teheran and Bagdad was so nearly made at the time of the last advices that it is probably now perfect. But the Director of the Persian telegraph states that this line cannot be worked until the dispute between Turks and Persians as to the Frontier is decided.

The mention of the cost of messages as being so great, noticed in the 4th para: of your letter was a misapprehension. I enclose a memo. of the rates:*

---

* MEMORANDUM of the purport of Mr. Alison's Telegram as respects the price of telegraph messages.

		Distances. Miles.				in Russia. Roubles.	Copecks.	in Persia. Francs.	Centimes.
1st	from	1	to	10	inclusive.	...	38	1	50
2nd	"	10	to	25	"	...	75	3	..
3rd	"	25	to	45	"	1	12	4	50
4th	"	45	to	70	"	1	49	6	..
5th	"	70	to	100	"	1	86	7	50
6th	"	100	to	135	"	2	24	9	..
7th	"	135	to	175	"	2	61	10	50
8th	"	175	to	220	"	2	98	12	..
9th	"	220	to	270	"	3	35	13	50
10th	"	270	to	325	"	3	72	15	..

The present hindrance is for want of settlement of the charges to be levied for distances in India beyond Kurrachee. For want of this there is no co-operation between the Indian telegraph and the Indo-European telegraph department. I hope with the permission of Government to explain this more particularly hereafter. But I write this much at once and add assurance that His Excellency the Governor has represented very urgently the need for settlement of the London charges and removal of the hindrance to the use of the Indian European telegraph which at present meets any one in India resident elsewhere than at Kurrachee.—Believe me, my dear Sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) W. F. MARRIOTT.

Matheran, November 23.

No. 275 OF 1864.

From LIEUT. COLONEL W. F. MARRIOTT,

Secretary to Government.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I had the honor of addressing a note to you on 23rd November supplying some of the information sought by your letter No. 153 of 17th November.

I subsequently received the orders of Government to communicate to you all the principal correspondence which had passed on the subject of the delay in making the Indo-European telegraph available to the public. But before the copies were prepared a telegram was received from the Government of India settling the rates to be charged for distances beyond Kurrachee eastward, by which it is hoped that the difficulty in using the line is now removed. It therefore seems scarcely worth while now to trouble you with past correspondence. I shall have much pleasure, however, in answering any further enquiries by the Chamber of Commerce.

I am desired to add that all future communications touching efficiency of the Indo-European telegraph which may be received, will be published; and I am to explain that the only reason for such publication not having been made hitherto, was that owing to breaks in the Turkish and Persian Land lines and accidents to the Sub-Marine cable and unsettled questions about

charges, it seemed probable that publication of the several reports would only mislead and consequently prove rather an inconvenience to the public than otherwise.

If on now applying at the telegraph office you still find any uncertainty as to the arrangements, I am to beg the favour of your letting me know, and Government will do its best to remedy it.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) W. F. MARRIOTT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 1st December 1864.

No. 173 OF 1864.

To COLONEL W. F. MARRIOTT,
Secretary to Government, Military Department,
Bombay.

SIR,—I have had the honor to receive your letter No. 275 of 1864 dated the 1st instant, together with your previous note of 23rd ultimo, in answer to mine of 17th idem asking for information in reference to the arrangements for telegraphic communication with England via the Persian Gulf.

In reply I am directed by the committee of the Chamber to express their acknowledgments for the promptitude and frankness with which you have placed before them all the information which Government has at its disposal at present, and for your so kindly offering to answer any farther inquiries the Chamber may have occasion to make on the subject.

I am to express the regret of the committee that, notwithstanding the labour and expense incurred in making this new line of telegraph all arrangements connected with it should still be so confused and imperfect that the prospect of its being available for the convenience and use of the public in any effective way, seems still very distant.

The committee, however, are very sensible that for such a state of affairs the Bombay Government is in no way responsible, and they believe that if the decision in all questions of detail still unarranged had rested with His Excellency the Governor they would long since have been disposed of.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 6th December 1864.

No. 290.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

H. I. WALTON, Esq.

Director, Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph.

Letter from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, No. 173, dated 6th December 1864.

Acknowledges receipt of the Government letter furnishing information in regard to telegraph communication between India and England via the Persian Gulf, and expresses regret of the Committee that the arrangements should be still imperfect.

RESOLUTION.—With reference to the remark that the prospect of the Indo-European Telegraph being available for the convenience and use of the public in any effective way seems still very distant, Mr. Walton is requested to report particularly his present experience of the working of the line.

(Signed) W. F. MARRIOTT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 16th December 1864.

No. 28.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY of the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Letter from the Director, Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph, No. 6, dated 3rd January 1865.

Reporting on the working of the Indo-European Telegraph, with reference to the representation of the Chamber of Commerce that the arrangement for the opening of communication between India and England is still imperfect.

RESOLUTION.—Copy to be sent to the Chamber of Commerce and Government of India.

(Signed) W. F. MARRIOTT, Lt.-Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 24th January 1865.

No. 6 OF 1865.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

From the DIRECTOR, Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph.

To the SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Government Resolution in this Department No. 290 dated 16th ultimo, desiring me to report particularly my present experience of the working of the telegraph, and with reference to an expression of regret by the Chamber of Commerce at Bombay that the arrangement for the opening of communication between India and England is still imperfect.

2. I would preface this report by recalling to your notice that the line of telegraph was completed between Kurrachee and London in September last except over a space of some thirty miles of disputed territory forming the Turco-Persian frontier between Bagdad and Kermanshah, and over which break Major Champain reported to Government at the time that he could arrange a system of mounted kossids to carry the messages in four or five hours. I had previously despatched to Major Champain, by Colonel Stewart's instructions, the signallers to work the English line through Persia, and everything promised fair for the immediate opening of communication at any rate as far as Bagdad via Teheran. At the same time there was and still is a line actually completed to London via Teheran and St. Petersburg. Suddenly, however, and without any previous intimation of their intentions, the Persians on the 8th October last stopped all communication beyond Bushire by cutting the wires; full particulars regarding this obstructive proceeding on the part of the Persians are doubtless in the hands of Government. The Persian line still continues closed, and I am informed that it may remain so for an indefinite period.

3. The direct line of telegraph, however, passes through Busrah and near the banks of the Tigris to Bagdad. Over this section, which is in the hands of the Turkish Government, Colonel Kemball is personally urging on the work, and he informs me that it will probably be completed in four or five weeks.

4. The Convention which was signed at Constantinople on the 3rd September last, and which, by Article XVI., 'is to come into operation as soon as the sub-marine cable shall be in communication with the land lines of Turkey and India,' stipulates in Article VI. that 'in order to ensure promptitude in the Indo-European correspondence, and its regular transmission and

receipt, the Ottoman Government will not fail to establish a permanent service at Bagdad and Fâo, as well as at the majority of stations on the main line of Asia between Constantinople and Fâo, and to appoint thereto a Staff possessing a knowledge of the English language sufficient for the perfect performance of that important service.' 'Moreover, the Ottoman Government, being desirous that the expeditious transit of the Indo-European messages over its territory should be rendered still more satisfactory, engages to establish at Constantinople an Office of transmission devoted exclusively to the service of messages to and from India. Its Officers, and especially the Station-master, shall be selected from amongst those of the Ottoman Telegraph Officials who are thoroughly conversant with the English language.'

5. And Article VII. declares that 'the Ottoman Government will take the necessary measures to ensure that one wire of the main line from Constantinople to Fâo shall be always exclusively devoted to Indo-European messages.'

6. The submarine cable connected the land lines of India with those of Turkey in May last, but to this day the Turkish Government have not established the service for the transmission of messages in English. Had they done so Colonel Kemball was prepared to establish, and for a short time actually did arrange, a kossid service between Busrah and Bagdad, which would have occupied only four days in transit, which, allowing another day for transit over the working sections of the telegraph, would bring Kurrachee within five days' communication with London. The kossid service was, however, soon abandoned, as no messages offered on either side; but in November, on receiving a copy of the Convention of 3rd September, and finding that the merchants in India were willing to risk sending messages through Turkey, I addressed Mr. Johnston, the Vice Consul at Busrah, as to the expediency of re-establishing the kossid service. His reply, as follows, dated 17th November, fully explains the inutility of such an arrangement:—'As there is nobody at Bagdad to translate private messages into Turkish, and nobody to translate into English at Constantinople, and as messages so translated and re-translated are generally unintelligible to the receivers, I think the kossid service you propose would be useless. I hear the Clerks for our work have left Constantinople.' On the 31st December last Mr. Johnstone telegraphs—'about a month ago arrival of signallers at Diarbekir was reported, but I have since heard nothing of them.'

7. The Mesopotamian line will be completed immediately, but even then I do not see that any measures have been adopted with

a view to render it of any service for the transmission of messages in English. The one signaller sent to Fâo by the Turkish Government, and to whom we are expected to make over our messages, is not only entirely unacquainted with any European language, but has only a limited knowledge of the manipulation of the instruments.

8. Not having received any communication from Colonel Stewart since he left India I am unable to state what arrangements have been made by him at Constantinople, or how far the Ottoman Government are likely eventually to fulfil their engagements, as it will be observed that in Article VI., quoted above, no definite time is specified as to when they will perform the promises contained therein.

9. I trust it will be seen from the above that I possess no means of forming any approximate conclusion as to the opening of the through line, the obstacles being entirely of a political nature, over which Telegraph Officials have no control.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. I. WALTON,
Director, Mekran Coast & Sub-marine Tel.

Kurrachee, 3rd January 1865.

No. 26 OF 1865.

To the OFFICIATING CHIEF SECERTARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to request the favor of His Excellency the Governor in Council informing the Chamber whether the Bombay Government have received any telegraphic message from London by the new telegraph route via Constantinople, Bagdad, and the Persian Gulf; and farther whether Government have reason to believe, that the line is thoroughly open and available for public use.

The Committee are quite aware that messages have been received from London by this route. They are cognizant of three, two of which have been received by members of the Chamber. One of these, however, was so remarkable in its character, that ever since its receipt business, not in Bombay only, but also in

Calcutta, has to a great extent been suspended. So long an interval has elapsed since the despatch and receipt here of the message in question without any other in the meantime having been received that suspicions of the most absurd character have been entertained regarding its authenticity by native merchants. They argue after their usual fashion in such matters, that if the line were really open the Government would have received messages, and that if these messages had contained intelligence of the nature of that lately published, and which has nearly paralysed business pending farther advices,—the Government would have been certain to have made the same public.

Another element in the prevailing disbelief is the fact that no telegrams have been received by the Chamber. That telegrams have been despatched from London for the Chamber there can be no question, as the Committee have received advice to this effect with the exact terms of messages which have never come to hand.

It is impossible to reason with suspicions, and impressions of the nature above referred to, but if Government should have received any message or messages by this route lately, and have reason to believe that it is fairly open,—they would much oblige the Committee by enabling them to make a public announcement to this effect for the purpose of allaying the doubts and suspicions which at present exist. Trusting to be favored with an early reply, and with the Committee's apology for troubling Government in this matter, even though, in the public interests.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 3rd March 1865.

To the SECRETARY of the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed in reply to your letter, No. 26 of the 3rd instant, (just received) to state that the Governor has received two through messages from London, one dated the 12th ultimo, received on the 25th apparently before the arrangements beyond Constantinople were complete, and of no special public interest; and the other which left London at 4 P. M. on the 1st, and was received in Bombay about noon to-day. The Governor in

Council has much pleasure in forwarding a copy of the letter for the information of the Chamber. He infers from it that the line and the arrangements for working it are now complete and available to the public.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) F. C. CHAPMAN,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 4th March 1864.

"COPY."

From London. To Bombay.
From Sir CHARLES WOOD. To Sir BARTLE FRERE.

Original.—The Secretary of State in congratulating the Governor of Bombay in Council on the successful completion of an undertaking calculated to bring India into closer union with Great Britain and under God's blessing, greatly to promote the common interests of both countries, desires to express to Sir Bartle Frere the sense entertained by Her Majesty's Government of the value of his zealous and energetic co-operation in the work which has now been brought to so prospering (prosperous?) a conclusion.

London, 1st March 4 *p. m.*

No. 82 OF 1865.

To H. I. WALTON, Esq.,
Director, Mekran Coast and Sub-Marine Telegraph,
Kurrachee.

SIR,—I am directed by the committee of the Chamber of Commerce to request the favor of your supplying them with any particulars it may be in your power to furnish, in respect to the receipt of telegrams by the Indo-European Telegraph from London at Kurrachee, and again in regard to their farther trans-

mission from Kurrachee to Bombay. A committee appointed by the Members of the Chamber to investigate certain facts connected with the working of the telegraph can find no data for ascertaining the time taken in transmitting a telegram between London and Kurrachee in the first instance, and then again the time taken in the farther transmission of the same telegram from Kurrachee to Bombay. We find that telegrams from London to Bombay take on an average six days in transmission, very often eight days, but how much of this time is absorbed between Kurrachee and Bombay, merchants have no means of knowing, as the telegrams received bear only the London date of despatch and the Bombay date of receipt. There is a very general impression that the delay complained of generally takes place on the line between Kurrachee and Bombay.

Any information you can supply in explanation of the points abovementioned will be thankfully received by the committee,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 29th April 1865.

No. 283 OF 1865.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

From the DIRECTOR, Mekran Coast and Sub-Marine Telegraph.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I regret that illness has prevented my replying to your letter of the 29th ultimo, at an earlier date.

2. The statistics for the month of April will be prepared by the 17th instant; and immedietely they are ready I shall be in a position to comply with your request regarding the receipt of messages by the Indo-European Telegraph.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. T. WALTON,
Director, Mekran Coast and Sub-Marine Telegraph.

Kurrachee, 15th May 1865.

No. 322 of 1865.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

From the DIRECTOR, Mekran Coast and Sub-Marine Telegraph.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,

Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—Referring to my letter No. 283, dated 15th instant, and in reply to yours of the 29th ultimo, I have the honor to inform you that the average length of time occupied in the transmission of messages from England to Kurrachee during the months of March and April last was hours 122, minutes 26, and hours 144 respectively. This very high average is owing to the interruptions in Roumelia at the end of March and beginning of April caused by the floods in that country as reported by me to Government and already published by them.

2. The number of messages transmitted by the Indo-European telegraph in March was 1,480, of which 1,443 were paid messages of a commercial and private nature and 37 were Government despatches.

3. In April the number of messages transmitted was 2,268, of which 2,255 were of a commercial and private nature and 13 were Government despatches.

4. During the current month the average length of time occupied in the transmission of messages between England and Kurrachee will be considerably less than during the two previous months.

5. Regarding your enquiries as to the period occupied in forwarding messages hence to Bombay, I am not in a position to give details, I have, however, strongly recommended Government to establish a message Examiner's Office at Kurrachee for messages received from or for the Indo-European system of telegraphs in order to afford a ready facility to the public for the investigation of complaints and to avoid the present tedious and unsatisfactory system of reference to Calcutta. Should Government be pleased to sanction this arrangement I shall be enabled in future to give the details for which you now ask. At present I can only say, that messages after being handed over by this Department to the Indian Telegraph Office here were detained in Kurrachee on some occasions during last month from 30 to 60 hours before they could be forwarded.

6. On enquiry to-day I am informed that there are nearly two hundred European messages now lying at the Kurrachee

and Hyderabad Offices alone awaiting transmission to their destinations in India, and that exclusive of messages still pouring in from Europe, it is not probable that those now on hand can be cleared off for two or three days, in the meantime local messages are altogether refused.

7. It is not in my province to enter into any explanation here as to the cause of the present state of telegraph communication beyond Kurrachee. I have, however, communicated with Government on the subject. .

8. I shall at all times be happy to give the Chamber any information as regards telegraphic communication between Kurrachee and Europe that may be consistent with my position as a Government servant. Without at present however venturing any opinion regarding communication eastward of Kurrachee, I might mention that the Kurrachee time is appended to all messages on their transfer to the Indian Telegraph Office here, and I would recommend the Chamber to suggest that such date should appear on the copy of the message delivered to the addressee. This course would at once obviate enquiry on the subject,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. I. WALTON,

Director, Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph.

Kurrachee, 23rd May 1865.

No. 98 OF 1865.

To C. BAILEY, Esq.

Director of Telegraphs, Bombay Presidency, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the committee of the Chamber of Commerce to suggest that you will be good enough to give instructions to the superintendent of the electric telegraph at Kurrachee to order that the Kurrachee time be appended to all Indo-European telegrams transmitted to Bombay and eastward of Kurrachee. The Chamber is given to understand that the time of receipt is appended to every telegram received by the Indo-European Department, when the same is handed over to the telegraph office at Kurrachee for farther despatch; and the adoption of this practice on all messages forwarded to Bombay

from Kurrachee will enable addressees to note the portion of time taken up in the transmission of Indo-European messages between the former place and Bombay,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 6th June 1865.

No 548 OF 1865.

From the Officiating Director of Telegraphs, Western Division.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary Bombay Chamber of Commerce,

SIR,—In acknowledging receipt of your letter, No. 98 of the 6th instant (which reached me only on the 22nd on my return from Kurrachee), I beg to inform you that I have referred the Chamber's suggestion to the Director General with a recommendation that it may be adopted,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) C. BAILEY,
Offg. Director of Telegraphs,
Western Division.

Bombay, 26th June 1865.

No. 878.

From the Officiating Director of Telegraphs, Western Division.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—With reference to your letter, No. 98 of the 6th June last, and in continuation of this office, No. 548 of the 26th idem.

2nd. I have the honor to inform you that the Officiating Director General has decided not to allow the Kurrachee date to be given on messages from Europe.

3rd. The Officiating Director General remarks, with reference to my suggestion, that the giving of the Kurrachee date would shew whether delays occurred on the Indo-European or on the Indian system, that "it is not a question of escaping blame ourselves or of throwing it on other persons, and on this principle might circles or other telegraph systems give a circle or frontier date. The Indian Telegraph Department is content to bear the *onus* of *ad interim* blame leaving it to complainants to shew where the fault lies,"—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) C. BAILEY,
Offg. Director of Telegraphs,
Western Division.

Bombay, 15th August, 1865.

NIGHT CHARGES ON INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAMS.

No. 137 OF 1865.

From the SECRETARY, BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

To LIEUT.-COLONEL W. F. MARRIOTT,
Secretary to Government, Military Department,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the committee of the Chamber of Commerce to call your attention to the enclosed correspondence between the Chamber and the Director of Telegraphs in Bombay, in reference to a practice which appears to prevail of making a night charge on Indo-European telegrams sent to the telegraph office after SIX P. M.

According to the book of tariff rates, together with the rules for the transmission of messages, prepared by Mr. Brasher, and stated to be published under the authority of His Excellency the Governor in Council, no such thing as night charges are admissible. The authority of this book, however, appears not to be recognised by the Director of telegraphs in Bombay; the book (which is in two parts) by which he professes to be guided, is printed at Calcutta, and purports to be published under the authority of the

Government of India, and in the list of rules and regulations for the transmission of messages which it contains there is nothing mentioned on the subject of night charges, so that the common rules in regard to telegrams in India are applied on this point.

This book appears to have been printed before the Indo-European line commenced working, and has an imperfect patched look about it; but if it is to be considered the only authority on all matters connected with the transmission of messages to Europe, together with the charges thereon from any part of India, it is high time the public were informed on the subject.

I need hardly point out that a conflict of authorities on such a point is a matter of serious inconvenience: the carefully prepared 'tariff of rates,' said to be published under the authority of the Bombay Government, is the book that is mainly in use in Bombay, and it is a matter of importance that the public should be promptly informed whether in the matter in dispute it speaks with authority.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

Bombay, 29th July 1865.

From the SECRETARY of the BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

To C. BAILEY, Esq.,

Offg. Director of Telegraphs, Western Division,
Bombay Presidency, Bombay.

SIR,—I have to direct your attention to the following statement:—

On Friday afternoon, about half-past five P. M., a sepoy left my office with a telegram for despatch to London by the new line of telegraph via the Persian Gulf, containing thirty words with Rs. 75 to pay for it, and also a note from me to the Superintendent requesting that I might be informed whether the line was in working order, and, if so, to send on the telegram. The sepoy it appears was sent back with a message to the effect that he had not brought enough of money, and that a further sum of Rs. 7-2-0 was required. This message he took to my head clerk late in the

evening, who gave him the additional sum asked for as well as money to pay for buggy-hire that there might be no further time lost in despatching the telegram.

When the foregoing facts were detailed to me on Saturday morning, both by the peon and the head clerk, I at once despatched the latter (at some inconvenience to myself, his services being required in correspondence for the Mail) to the telegraph office to ascertain the meaning of the demand that had been made for Rs. 7-2-0, the proper amount for the telegram having been sent by the peon when I sent it on Friday.

The clerk returned with the accompanying copy of my telegram from a gentleman in the telegraph office who has noted the various items of cost, and from this I find that the sum of Rs. 7-2-0 is for what are called night charges.

I suppose it can hardly be necessary for me to point out to you that 'night charges' are not recognised nor can they be legally made on telegrams for transmission to Europe via the Persian Gulf from any station in India. I believe an order to this effect was issued by Colonel Douglas, but in any case the tariff of rates prepared by Mr. Brasher, together with the conditions under which messages are transmitted published under the sanction of the Government of Bombay, has under rule 14 the following explicit annunciation on the subject:—

"All charges must be prepaid by the sender. *They are the same whether a message is tendered for transmission by day or night, on Sundays or Holidays. They include, for all messages east of Kurrachee, the price of repetition* over the Indian lines."

Surely nothing can be more clear from this rule, than that the night charges on my message were improperly and illegaly imposed.

I have therefore to request you will have the goodness to return the Rs. 7-2-0, together with Rs. 1-8-0 spent in buggy-hire in connexion with this business, and I think you will allow that I have reason to complain of the trouble I have been put to in a matter where there should neither have been trouble nor difficulty to any one.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

Bombay, 24th July 1865.

2
From Bombay 1 To London. 3
From Taylor 4 To Reuter. 10
5 6 7 8 9
Twenty first. Candid. Bantam. Deslac. Devizes. Bantam. Since
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18
eight 27,000 Panama. Gamsay. Gutheral. Helm. Costly. Calcutta.
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
Twentieth. Cavern. Twist seven. unchanged. Carset. Bannock.
26 27 28 29 30
Panama. Crumb. London latest thirtieth.

For 30 words to London. - - - - - - Rs.	75	0	0
Night charge to Kurrachee for 20 words. ,,	4	12	0
Night charge for running 10 words. - ,,	2	6	0
Total Rs. . .	82	2	0

(Correct charge.)
W. F. A. HERVEY,
2nd Inspector in charge.

N. B.—This message was signalled last night and will reach Kurrachee to-day, there is now no interruption on the line.

W. H.

No. 761.

From the Officiating DIRECTOR of Telegraphs, Western Division.
To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 24th instant, I have the honor to inform you, that the night charge is made on Indo-European messages, as far as Kurrachee, under the authority of the Director General's Circular telegram, No. 3344 of the 8th February last, an extract of which is copied in the margin.

"The rule of the Department as regards Sunday and night price will apply only to the Indian share of messages tendered for transmission by the Indo-European line."

2. I am aware that the notice you quote appears in a book of rules of the Indo-European Telegraph, but it is not included in either of the tariff books supplied to this Department.

3. The accompaniment of your letter under reply is returned herewith—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) C. BAILEY,
Offg. Director, Telegraphs,
Western Division.

(True copy.)
(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secy., Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

Bombay, 25th July 1865.

No. 572, OF 1865.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,

From the DIRECTOR, Mekran Coast and Sub-Marine Telegraph.

To Lieut.-Colonel W. F. MARRIOTT,

Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to the correspondence herewith returned, I have the honor to report that I cannot but think that Colonel Douglas was wrong in circulating an order to charge double rates on Indo-European messages tendered for despatch at stations in India.

Letter No. 137, dated 29th July, from the Secretary to Bombay Chamber of Commerce, to Secretary to Government.
Letter from Secretary Bombay Chamber of Commerce, to Director of Telegraphs in India, Western Division.
Letter No. 76', dated 25th July, from Mr. Bailey, to Secretary to Chamber of Commerce.
Copy of telegram from Taylor to Reuter.
Endorsement by Lieut.-Colonel Marriott, Secretary to Government of Bombay.

2. On the 14th November 1864, in his letter No. 2093, Colonel Douglas wrote to Mr. Brasher as follows:—'Whatever may be fixed upon as the tariff for India it will be the same at the Kurrachee office either at night or on Sundays and holidays.' We pay no extra charge here for messages tendered for despatch into India during the night or at any other exceptional time. Under these circumstances it is difficult to understand why messages despatched homewards should be taxed a double rate (over the first section of the telegraph) which is not demanded on messages coming *into* India under the same circumstances.

3. In Article VI. of the International Convention it is agreed that stations of 'permanent duty' or 'stations of the first class will be open day and night without interruption.' The extra charge is nowhere mentioned, neither is it recognized in any other telegraph Administration, and when making agreements with the foreign administrations no allusion was made to any such extra charges; I am therefore of opinion that the double charge cannot justly be collected on any messages for onward transmission to the westward of Kurrachee.

4. In para. 4 of my letter, No. 123 dated 22nd February last, I particularly instanced the double charges made on messages in India as being directly opposed to the spirit of the International Convention, and as all the subjects then submitted for the consi-

deration of Government are of paramount importance in the efficient working of the telegraph system, I would respectfully request a reference to the letter in question.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. I. WALTON, Director,
Mekran Coast & Sub-marine Telegraph.

Kurrachee, 14th August 1865.

No. 281.

INDU-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

H. I. WALTON, Esq.,
DIRECTOR, Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph.

Letter from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, No. 137, dated 29th July 1865.

Submits a correspondence between the Chamber and the Director of Telegraphs in Bombay relative to a prevailing practice of making a night charge on Indo-European Telegrams sent after six P. M. Observes that in the Book of Tariff rates prepared by Mr. Brasher, and published under the authority of the Bombay Government, no mention is made of night charges, but that this Book does not appear to be recognised by the Director of Telegraphs in Bombay who professes to be guided by another Book of Tariff published under the authority of the Government of India. States that Mr. Brasher's Book is mainly in use in Bombay, and that it is of importance that the public should be informed that in the matter in dispute it speaks with authority.

Letter from the Director, Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph, No. 572, dated 14th August 1865.

RESOLUTION—Copy of Mr. Walton's report to be sent to the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, and the whole correspondence to be sent to the Government of India for consideration of the objection to the double charge.

(Signed) W. A. MABRIOTT, Lt.-Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 2nd September 1865.

No. 339.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

(With copy of Government of India's letter No. 2754.)

LIEUT.-COLONEL F. J. GOLDSMID,
Director Indo-European Telegraph.

H. I. WALTON, Esq.,
Director Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph.

Letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, No. 2635 dated 10th October 1865.

Replying to the representation by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce against the night charge levied on messages by the Indo-European Telegraph, and stating that it is under consideration whether the additional charge may not be dispensed with.

RESOLUTION.—Copy to be sent to the Chamber of Commerce and to Mr. Walton and to Colonel Goldsmid.

(Signed) W. F. MARRIOTT, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 28th October 1865.

No. 2635.

From A. M. MONTEATH, Esq.,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

To the SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 281, dated the 2nd ultimo, and of its enclosures, regarding an objection urged by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce to the night charge levied on messages tendered at Indian telegraph offices after six P. M. for transmission by the Indo-European line.

2. In reply, I am directed to observe that the extra charge in the instance brought forward by the Chamber would appear to have been quite proper under the rule explained to the Bombay Government in the letter from this Department, dated the 25th March last, No. 2754.

3. A reference will, however, be made to the Officiating Director General of telegraphs in India, with the view of ascertaining whether the additional charge may not be dispensed with.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. M. MONTEATH,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Simla, 10*th October* 1865.

No. 2754.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

From E. C. BAYLEY, Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

To LIEUT.-COL. W. F. MARRIOTT,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Military Dept.

SIR,—I am desired to acknowledge your letter No. 66, dated 3rd instant, with its enclosures, and to reply as follows upon the several points noticed in the communications enclosed from Messrs. Walton and Brasher.

2. All Offices in India will be kept open during the whole of Sunday, and all offices which have Establishments for night work at all hours, for the purpose of sending on and out all messages received from the Indo-European telegraph without any extra charge. Colonel Douglas had already issued partial and temporary instructions to this effect before the receipt of your letter under reply, and he has now been directed to make the arrangement general and permanent.

3. I am to explain also that, as a rule, no extra charge is made for sending messages on Sundays, or at night, if the sender has no option except to send them at night or Sunday.

4. For example, if a message by the Indo-European Telegraph arrives, and is delivered at night, and the receiver is desirous of sending an immediate reply, he is allowed by the practice of the Department to do so the same night without any extra charge.

5. The extra charge is only made when a sender of a message in India, having the power of sending his message by day, chooses

to send it by night, or who, having the opportunity of sending the message on a week-day, sends it on a Sunday.

The Governor General in Council, as at present informed, sees no reason for altering this arrangement. The extra charge is separately levied; it forms no part of the general account kept with the Indo-European telegraph line, and will not appear in that account at all.

6. The order issued by Colonel Douglas on the 23rd ultimo, on the subject of repeating Indo-European messages which is quoted by Mr. Walton, was issued under instructions from the Government of India. As it is now stated, however, that the order is in opposition to the terms of the Convention negociated by the late Colonel Stewart with the Turkish Government, it will be withdrawn, and all messages by the Indo-European telegraph will be repeated without extra charge. Colonel Douglas has been desired to report, after further experience, how far the present rates charged fairly meet the cost of repetition.

7. As regards notation of time, Colonel Douglas has employed the notation used on the Indian telegraph line only on messages sent *from* India. He has, however, been directed to discontinue its use for all messages connected with the Indo-European line.

8. Mr. Walton does not clearly explain in what manner Colonel Douglas's mode of *charging* the address of messages creates any difficulty. Colonel Douglas states that although the forms of telegraphic messages presented by the Brussels's Convention are not actually in use in the Indian telegraphic offices, yet that the *charges* on Indo-European messages are regulated according to those forms. Colonel Douglas has, however, been desired to place himself in communication with Mr. Brasher by telegraph, and to submit a report on the point without delay.

9. As ragards the specific differences between the Indian and the International telegraph rules, which Mr. Brasher brings to notice, Colonel Douglas has already directed the adoption in each case of the latter rules, so far as messages by the Indo-European line are concerned.

10. Some error, it is known, arose as to the mode of charging Government cypher messages, but it was corrected immediately on reference by Mr. Brasher to Colonel Douglas. It is far from improbable that further errors on these and similar points may likewise occur, for the signallers and other officers on the Indian lines

are not as yet fully acquainted with the International rules. An application to Colonel Douglas should, however, suffice to correct such errors without any necessity for a reference to Government.

11. As regards the particular complaint which forms the subject of Mr. Brasher's letter of the 6th February, I am to observe that although the date of the message may have been omitted, yet that the mistake was probably either from error or accident, and that, at any rate, so serious a charge as that of "habitual suppression" need not have been hazarded on a single instance of omission.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) E. C. BAYLEY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Dated Fort William, 25th March 1865.

REMOVAL OF THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

No. 1051 OF 1865.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—In forwarding to you the accompanying copy of a communication from the Director General of Telegraphs in India, No. 314, dated 26th ultimo, with its enclosure, I am directed to request that you will be so good as to favor Government with the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce on the subject,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) F. C. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 10th June 1865.

No. 314.

From LIEUT.-COL. C. DOUGLAS,
Director General of Telegraphs in India.

To the CHIEF SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to the following copy of a letter from the Officiating Director of Telegraphs, Western Division, I should be glad of the favor of the opinion of the Bombay Government, on the desirability or otherwise of the measure suggested by him. —I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) C. DOUGLAS, Lieut-Col.,
Director General of Telegraphs in India.

Calcutta, 26th May 1865.

No. 383.

From the Officiating Director of Telegraphs, Western Division.

To the Director General of Telegraphs in India.

SIR,—In the 4th para: of my letter No. 292, of the 1st instant, I reported that even at the increased salary (Rs. 40 per month) sanctioned by you for receiving clerks, qualified men could not be obtained.

2. I now beg to report that in consequence of the paucity of clerks, I have been compelled to issue orders for the closing of the branch receiving office, and for messages to be received only at the telegraph house till further notice.

3. The branch office has been closed now for nearly a week, and no complaint whatever has been made against the step, while it has lessened considerably the work of the receiving establishment, and prevented much delay, in passing messages between the Fort and the telegraph office.

4. The Fort office was never of any great assistance to the public, except in saving the legs of their peons, and was seldom used by Europeans after the notice the messages for transmission would be received at the telegraph house. It is therefore a matter for consideration whether it would not be advisable to do away with the branch office altogether, and reduce the establishment accordingly. A proper place has been fitted up for the reception of messages in the telegraph office, and in the event of a press of

work, or the want of receiving clerks assistance can be afforded from the signal room.

5. I recommend that the branch office be kept closed till the 15th proximo and then abolished altogether unless in the mean time some good reason is shewn for resuming it.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) B. C. BAILEY,
Offg. Director of Telegraphs,
Western Division.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay, 12th May 1865.

No. 101 OF 1865.

To F. S. CHAPMAN, Esq.,
Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1051 dated 10th instant, forwarding copy of a communication from the Director General of telegraphs in India in reference to the closing of the telegraph receiving office within the Fort of Bombay, and requesting the opinion of the Chamber on the subject.

In reply I am to state that the office in question, since the removal of the entire telegraph department to Colaba, has been of no real assistance to the public. Messages were allowed to accumulate before they were forwarded to the head office for transmission, and from this cause it proved a source of hindrance rather than of help. The Committee consider it would be well to abolish it.

I am directed, however, to take the present opportunity of calling the attention of Government to the inconvenience to which the mercantile community are subjected at present by the distance of the telegraph establishment from the centre of business, the Fort of Bombay.

Since the opening of the Indo-European line via the Persian Gulf, the inconvenient distance of the telegraph offices at Colaba, has been still more keenly felt.

It not unfrequently happens that principals in mercantile firms are obliged to go to Colaba themselves to arrange matters, connected with the transmission of messages, after much tim has already been lost in endeavouring to get the business performed by peons or native clerks. It is unnecessary for me to point out what must be so obvious to Government that time is everything in reference to the use of the telegraph and the transmission of messages. Yet it accords with the experience of the Chamber that a whole day has been lost in getting a telegram transmitted, in consequence of delays caused mainly by the ignorance of telegraph receiving clerks when principals of firms have been unable to spare the time to go themselves to Colaba to get matters at once set right.

The committee trust Government will be good enough to take this matter into its early consideration, with a view to the telegraph department in all its branches, being brought back to the Fort to suit alike the convenience of Government and the wants of the mercantile community by whose patronage in fact the telegraph department is mainly supported.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 16*th June* 1865.

No. 1528 OF 1865.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 16th June last, No. (101,) I am directed to forward, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying extract from the proceedings of Government No. 1527 of this date, on the subject of the removal of the telegraph office in all its branches to the Fort.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,
Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 22*nd August* 1865.

No. 1527

EXTRACT *from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the General Department, dated 22nd August* 1865.

Read the following papers :—

Letter from Lieut.-Colonel D. G. Robinson, Officiating Director General of Telegraphs in India, to the Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, No. 1010 dated 2nd August 1865.

In reply to your No. 1201, of the 30th June, I have the honor to forward copy of my letter this day addressed to the Director Western Division, and to request the favour of your co-operation.

Letter from Lieut.-Colonel D. G. Robinson, Officiating Director General of Telegraphs in India, to the Officiating Director of Telegraphs Western Division, No. 1009, dated 2nd August 1865.

The opinion of the Government of Bombay was asked on your suggestion to close the Fort receiving Office. The Bombay Government, in relpy, urge the desirability of removing the telegraph office in all its branches to the Fort, and undoubtedly that is the more proper place. I request, therefore, that you will lose no time in entering into communication with the Secretary to Government in the Public Works Department in view to your being quickly supplied with accommodation sufficient for your whole Establishment, so situated as to be convenient to the public, especially the mercantile community, and appropriate to the purpose required.

RESOLUTION.—A copy of this letter, with enclosure, to be sent to the Public Works Department of the Secretariat, for early attention.

2. A copy may also be sent to the Chamber of Commerce.

Ordered that copies of the above be forwarded to—

The PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT of the SECRETARIAT.

H. E. JACOMB,
Under Secretary to Government.

No. 146 OF 1865.

To the SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT,
Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1528 of 1865, dated 22nd instant, together with extract from the proceedings of Government No. 1527 of same date, to which it gave cover, on the subject of the removal of the telegraph offices in all its branches to the Fort.

In reply, I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce respectfully to tender their best acknowledgments to Government for the effective support given to the views expressed in the Chamber's letter of 16th June, and for the prompt action that has been taken in a matter affecting so largely the convenience of the mercantile portion of the community.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 26th August 1865.

APPENDIX E.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

No. 131 OF 1864.

To E. IMPEY, Esq.,
Postmaster General, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you, that the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, having had under consideration the postal regulations applying to the despatch of mails, together with other of the post office arrangements, in so far as these affect the interests and convenience of the public—they have directed me to address you on the following points:—

1. It appears from information laid before the committee, that within the last few months, the Overland mail steamers, were on several occasions detained in the harbour some hours after the advertised time of sailing; and though it was usually known to the postal authorities before-hand that there would be delay, no notice of the same was in any instance communicated to the public, so that merchants and others were excluded from deriving any advantage from the additional hours that might have been available for correspondence—hours, which to mercantile men, I need hardly observe, would have been of the utmost consequence.

2. The mail of the 29th ultimo, was not despatched till the afternoon of that date, and notice of delay in this instance was communicated to the Postmaster by the local Government, full twenty-four hours before the steamer left the harbour. Yet not a single step was taken by the post office authorities to inform the public on the subject, who were thus shut out from deriving the slightest benefit from the delay.

3. Representations were made to the Postmaster for not having issued a notice to the public of this enforced detention of the mail, of which he himself had ample notice, but his reply was to

the effect that he had no power to alter the hour fixed for closing the mail boxes, and that he was unable to give the public an opportunity of benefiting when these delays occurred.

4. If such be really the case, and if the Postmaster be powerless to alter details in which the public interests are so deeply concerned, the general dissatisfaction expressed regarding the working of the Department is not to be wondered at: the Committee would respectfully suggest that the Postmaster should be invested with greater discretionary powers in all matters of detail, that he may thus be the more able to adapt the machinery of his office in its internal arrangements to the exigencies of the public requirements.

5. The delays in the despatch of the mail to which I have referred prove in the opinion of the committee, the inconvenience of existing arrangements.

6. At present even when the steamers sail at the appointed hour, the correspondence of Bombay with England and the rest of Europe is practically locked up, for more than twelve hours after being closed at the Post Office, before the steamer leaves the harbour.

7. The committee do not forget, that nominally, the mail is not closed till 7 A. M., with an after packet an hour later, on the morning of the day on which the steamer is despatched; but it must be remembered, that according to present arrangements, to the people of Bombay, the mail may really be said to be closed at sunset on the previous evening. Between that time and 10 A. M., next morning (the nominal hour for the despatch of the Mail), there is an interval of sixteen hours utterly lost to the public, inasmuch as, during that period, it is practically impossible to transact business, though the Steamer remains idle at anchor, without having progressed a single knot on her voyage homewards.

8. It is unnecessary perhaps to point out to you, who must be well acquainted with the practice in England, that such dilatory mail arrangements are unheard of out of India.

9. The Marseilles portion of the India mail is on its way from London to India, within an hour after the time fixed for closing the post office for the receipt of letters; equal celerity is shown in the despatch of the American mails from Liverpool and Queenstown, and in the cases of both the Indian and American mails, the hour of closing is the latest possible on mail day, the mails being invariably despatched for their ultimate destination on the evening of the day on which the mail is made up.

10. The committee are of opinion that a somewhat similar arrangement would be found to be the most convenient and suitable for Bombay.

11. If the Oveland mail were closed at three or four o'clock in the afternoon of the 14th and 29th of each month (the dates fixed for the despatch of the Overland mails in the fair season) the after packet an hour afterwards, and the steamer despatched just before sunset, the convenience of the public would thus be consulted, no time would be unnecessarily lost, and a custom would be revived which was fromerly found to work well.

12. In January last, the Committee called your attention to the extreme inconvenience to merchants, of the present plan of despatching both the China and the Overland Mails on the same day and almost at the same hour; and they would be glad to know whether it is in your power to effect some change in this respect: if the alterations in reference to the despatch of the Overland mail suggested above, were carried out, they would obviate to some extent the objectionable character of the present arrangements as regards both mails.

13. I am further directed to call your serious attention to the internal economy of the post office, in reference to the recent strike of the letter carriers.

14. The amount of inconvenience caused to the public by the strike and subsequent dismissal of all the experienced peons in the post office,—it would be difficult to exaggerate; and it is to be feared that the well-founded distrust engendered in the minds of the public, by the recent break down in regard to the safe delivery of correspondence conveyed through the post, will not be very speedily allayed.

14. In conclusion I am to state, the committee cannot too strongly express their opinion,—that as there is no public Department, with the efficient working of which, the comfort and convenience of the community is so intimately connected, as the post office—so no considerations of a pecuniary character in matters of detail—should be permitted to weigh in any earnest endeavours that may be made to place the post office in all its branches—in such a state of efficiency as will command the respect and the confidence of the public.—I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 21*st October* 1865.

No 2820 of 1864.

To James Taylor, Esq.,

Secretary Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge your letter No. 131 of 21st October, and to acquaint you for the information of the Chamber of Commerce in respect to the first subject mentioned by you as in margin, that the Suez Mail Steamer is only detained upon certain prescribed occasions and under very strict orders from the Secretary of State and Government of India.

"Notification to the public when the Overland Mail Steamer is detained *a few hours* beyond the advertised time of sailing."

2. The detention is consequently limited to the shortest time possible for the Post Office to dispose of the large bulk of letter mails that are received from Calcutta for both the Southampton and Marseilles routes, which consists of about one quarter of the whole despatch from Bombay.

3. If under these circumstances the letter boxes at the Post Office were to be kept open for the general correspondence of the Bombay public for all parts of the world, an amount and pressure of additional work would be thrown on the Post Office which it would be impossible to overtake, except by prolonging the departure of the steamer still further and running the risk of curtailing too closely the time of transit to Suez, which the P. and O. Company have, as the Chamber are aware, reduced by several days within the last few years.

4. I can, therefore, only meet the wishes of the Chamber to a limited extent viz. by extending the time of closing the after packet to within two hours of the sailing of the steamer whenever the latter may happen to be detained, and this I have ordered to be done.

5. In regard to the particular instance of the 29th September and the reply of the Post Master Bombay, referred to by you, there is not to my knowledge any prohibitory order in the department to prevent a Post Master, especially the Postmaster of a presidency town, from exercising his discretion upon an exigency, in the interest of the community or to meet the proved convenience of the public, and the Post Master of Bombay could have obtained any requisite authority *considered necessary by him*, by exercising his privilege of sending a "clear the line" telegraph message to me. Mr. Garrett, however, made no such

application and denies having received the instructions of Government regarding the detention of the steamer 24 hours before she left as you have stated. I attach extracts of his letter

6. With regard to the 2nd subject, I would observe that as a Departmental question and so far as the Post Office is concerned, it is almost immaterial what the closing hour is, and it only remains for the most convenient time to be determined by the community for the Post Office to accommodate itself to it if possible, but as the Chamber are aware the matter rests with other parties and principally with the P. and O. Company.

"The alteration in the hour of starting the English Mail Steamer."

7. In your predecessor's letter to me, No. 10, 25th January, it was stated, after an experiment of some months, that the community "had adapted itself to the departure of the steamer (at 10 A. M.) and that the arrangement was not generally disliked."

8. As, however, the feeling at present as expressed in your letter under reply, seems to have altered, it would be very desirable that the sense of the mercantile community should be taken and the hour definitely fixed: I shall then be in a better position to represent the subject in the proper quarter.

9. I understand the present wish to be, that the starting hour of the steamer should be the evening of the day on which the mail is made up *i. e.* before sunset of the present fair season days of departure namely the 14th and 29th of each month.

10. It will involve an extension of time amounting to 7 hours, and this *must constitute a condition of the proposed change*, for should the extension not be conceded by the P. and O. Company, a recession of the time, viz., to the evening of the 13th and 28th would result which would throw the correspondence of *all India* 24 hours back, inasmuch as the through trains arrive in Bombay in the morning only, and the Chamber do not, I presume, expect that a mere change in the closing hour at Bombay could be advocated against such interests.

11. The Chamber appears to be under a misconception upon the subjects adverted to by you in connection with this question, viz. that the correspondence of Bombay with England and Europe is practically locked up for more than 12 hours before the steamer leaves the harbour, that this time is utterly lost to the public, and that the practice of closing the letter boxes in Bombay differs materially from that in England.

12. From records specially kept on the departure of the last homeward mail with a view to test the first point, it was ascertained that upwards of 500 letters and papers were posted between 7 P. M. the evening previous to and 7 A. M. the day of the despatch of the steamer independent of the after packet which is open until 8 A. M. That interval is consequently largely made use of by the public and correspondence cannot be said to be locked up.

13. In Calcutta, I believe, no such latitude or extension of time is permitted to the public; the letter boxes close at 6 P. M. on the evening previous to the sailing of the steamer and an after packet only is allowed early the next morning.

14. With reference to the comparison made between the *Indian* and London and other Post Offices, as to the celerity in the despatch of the mails which are said to be on their way within an hour after the time fixed for the closing of the letter boxes, I beg to state that in Bombay the interval is only one and a half hour and cannot at present be further curtailed. The letter boxes in the Bombay Post Office finally close at 8 A. M., and the mails leave the Post Office on ordinary occasions and are on their way at 9½ A. M. In Bombay the public have besides the advantage of posting letters on board the steamer in the letter box there, to within five minutes of the steamer weighing anchor.

15. I am already in communication with the London Post Office with a view to allow the after packet of the Bombay Post Office to be made up for the sea sorting Post Office between Alexandria and Malta, and this, if granted, will enable letters to to be posted within quarter an hour of the mails leaving the Post Office.

16. In respect to the 3rd subject, there is, I trust, a prospect of a change being made. The Superintendent of the P. and O. Company on being applied to objected to the proposition and proposed a return to the former days of despatch of the Suez steamer, viz., the 13th and 28th on account of the disturbance to the conjunction of the steamers from different ports at Galle. I ascertained, however, from the postal authorities in Ceylon, that the Bombay steamer carrying the China and Australian Mail had, in the course of a twelvemonth, and during all seasons reached Galle on an average two days before the corresponding steamers from Aden and Calcutta.

"Inconvenience of the present plan of despatching both the China and Europe Mails on the same day and hour."

17. The Bombay Government and London Post Office have consequently been addressed with a view to the introduction of the change last proposed by the Chamber, viz., to the despatch of the China steamer on the evening of the 14th and 29th. If, however, the Chamber adhere to their desire to have the Suez steamer altered to the same time of day, it will be necessary to modify or change it again or to adhere to the present hour for the Suez steamer.

"Inconvenience occasioned by the strike and dismissal of the Post Office Peons."

18. On the subject of the strike of the letter carriers of the Bombay Post Office, I may state that it was not without due consideration for the interests of Government and the convenience of the public, that I felt myself reluctantly compelled to dismiss them. A demand was made by the men for an exorbitant and disproportionate rate of wages, which was persisted in, notwithstanding reasonable offers and full explanation that their request would meet with fair and just consideration, and the attendant circumstances clearly evinced that an organized combination existed, to coerce the Government into the concession of unreasonable terms, dictated by the men themselves, under the belief that their services could not be dispensed with, on account of the public inconvenience that would result. Such coercion I felt it my duty to resist, and I can only affirm, that trying as it has been to the patience and temper of the public, the general safety of letters has not been affected, the delivery has been necessarily tardy and has been endeavoured to be interrupted, the Post Master reports by design and trickery.

19. I have not received 20 complaints of losses of letters out of the many thousands daily sent out for delivery in the course of the month that has transpired since the dismissal of the old letter carriers,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General.

Bombay, Post Master General's Camp, 22nd November 1864.

EXTRACT *paras* 3 *to* 6 *of a letter No.* 5725, *dated 5th November* 1864 *from the Post Master, Bombay, to the Post Master General.*

3. The telegraphic message from Nargaum reached me, I think, some time after noon of the 28th September, and the Chief Secre-

tary's letter authorizing the detention of the steamer was brought to the office shortly after 6 P. M. the same day.

4. Mr. Gumpert, of the firm of Messrs. Huschke and Co., wrote to me on the night of the 28th September on an open slip of paper in pencil from the club dinner table asking whether the mail steamer was to be detained the following day, to which the undersigned replied on the same slip in the following words as far as can be remembered—"that the steamer would be detained till noon for the Calcutta dak, but that the casual detention of the steamer would not interfere with existing arrangements to post letters to-morrow morning." Some days after the same gentleman wrote a demi-official note on the same subject which the undersigned replied to in the same manner, but did not keep copy of it nor is Mr. Gumpert's note forthcoming.

5. The Post Master remembers that he informed Mr. Gumpert that he had no power to alter the hour for closing the letter box, but does not in the least recollect writing that he was unable to give the public an opportunity of benefitting when those delays occur.

6. A request has been made to return the note for the Post Master General's perusal.

(True copy.)

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General.

No. 160 OF 1864.

To T. BLACK, ESQ.,
Supt. of the Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Co.,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to inquire whether there is any objection on the part of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company to the mail steamers being despatched hence to Suez during the fair season on the evenings say at sunset the 14th and 29th of each month instead of on the mornings of these dates as is the custom at present.

Also whether it be the case that a letter box is open on board the mail steamer, in which the public have the opportunity of posting letters, after the mail boxes at the Post Office have been closed, till within a few minutes of the steamer weighing anchor.

The Committee will esteem it a favor if you can conveniently reply to the foregoing questions by Wednesday the 30th November in view of the subject of "mail arrangements" being discussed at the general meeting to be held on the 1st proximo.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, November 25th 1864.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this morning and in reply to acquaint you that there can be no objection made by this company to the English mail steamers starting at any hour of the day. The days and the hour for departure were fixed to accommodate the Post Office, and not in any way in reference to our convenience. While I was in England the Post Office authorities and the Directors of this company had under consideration the inconvenience of the English and China mails starting from Bombay at the same time, and I was given to understand that at the beginning of next year an alteration was to be made, but in which of the mails had not been settled up to the time of departure.

A box is open on board for the reception of late letters up to the time of the mail steamer getting under weigh.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) T. BLACK,
Superintendent.

Bombay, 26th November 1864.

No. 169, of 1864.

To T. Black, Esq.

Supt. Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co.

Sir,—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo, I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber to tender you their best thanks for your so promptly replying to the inquiries made in my letter of same date.

Owing to the length of time taken up by other business at the General Meeting of the Chamber on the 1st instant, the subject of "Mail Arrangements" could not be brought forward; at the meeting, however, to be held on Thursday the 8th instant, the present mail arrangements will be one of the principal subjects for consideration, and the Committee trust you may be able to be present.

Meantime in reference to the subject of a letter box being kept on board the steamer, by which letters, may be posted till within a few minutes of the time of the departure of the steamer.

As some Members of Committee mentioned at the Committee meeting on Friday that only a very short time since they were unable to post letters on board and could only dispose of the same by getting the purser or a passenger to take charge of them to place them in the box put up for the convenience of passengers after the steamer is under weigh,—I am requested to direct your attention again to this point, that you may be able to say whether any alteration has been made during the period of your absence in England, or whether matters really stand now, as reported in your letter under acknowledgment. With my apology for troubling you again on this matter,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) James Taylor,

Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 3rd December 1864.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
Bombay.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of this day's date I have to state that I shall not fail to attend the meeting of the Chamber on the 8th instant, unless some unexpected circumstance intervene. With regard to the letter box in which letters may be posted up to the moment of the steamer's departure, I should have stated that this box is brought on board with the mails almost at the last moment, but the commanders of the steamers will have instructions to have any letters received and taken care of till the box comes on board,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) T. BLACK,
Superintendent.

Bombay, 5th December 1864.

No. 177 OF 1864.

To E. IMPEY, Esq.,
Post Master General, Bombay.

SIR,—In a demi-official note of the 26th ultimo, I acknowledged the receipt of your reply dated 21st idem to my letter of the 21st October on the subject of mail arrangements and other matters in the Post Office department, with an intimation that an official answer thereto should in due course be forthcoming.

2. Since then the questions discussed in the above-mentioned letters have been considered at a general meeting of the members of the Chamber of Commerce, and I am now instructed by the Committee to address you in reply.

3. On the first topic noticed in my letter of the 21st October. *the occasional detention of mails for hour's beyond the stated time of despatch without notice being given to the public.* You observe "the mail steamer is only detained upon certain prescribed occasions and under very strict orders from the Secretary of State and Government of India," and that the detention is limited to the shortest time possible, &c., &c.

4. The Committee are of course prefectly well aware of this: all they asked for on the part of the mercantile community was a public notice of the detention, in order that the public of Bombay might have an opportunity of profiting by the delay for further correspondence.

5. I instanced more than one case of recent delay where no public notice was given, and in reference to one of these, in which an evasive letter from the Post Master of Bombay is put forward by you as evidence to disprove my statements;—I have no doubt the correspondence between the Post Master and the Chairman of the Chamber, which I sent you for perusal, will have perfectly satisfied you of the accuracy of what I said.

6. I am sorry to have to take up time in referring to so small a matter, but a first duty in any discussion is to support one's statements with unimpeachable evidence.

7. The Committee cordially recognise your desire to meet their wishes in all cases in future where there may be a detention of the mail steamer and that détention known to the Post Office authorities—"by extending the time of closing the after packet to within two hours of the sailing of the steamer."

8. The next subject referred to in my letter of the 21st October was the desirableness of altering the time fixed at present for the English and China mail steamers.

9. I entered into the question of the present arrangements regarding the English mail in considerable detail, and wound up with a strong recommendation from the Committee that the present system should be altered to the extent of despatching the English mail steamer during the fair season, on the evening of the 14th and 29th of every month instead of as at present, on the morning of these dates.

10. Since I addressed you to this effect, the Chamber of Commerce has received information from the Superintendent of the P. and O. S. N. Co. of a change, about to be made in the date of despatch of the China mail, with the common consent of the Directors of the Company and the London Post Office, which fundamentally affects the grounds on which the Committee made the above recommendation.

11. It appears from information laid before a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held on the 8th instant that the China mail will in a very short time be despatched in future on the mornings of the 15th and 30th of every month instead of the 14th and 29th.

12. With this arrangement in force and the English mail despatched on the evenings of the 14th and 29th, we should be

in precisely the same position regarding the despatch of mails, as we are now, a state of affairs, which merchants with good reason, so much complain of.

13. It was farther in evidence before the Chamber on the same competent authority, that the present dates for the despatch of the English mail operate unfavorably as regards the quick receipt of the mails in England. Captain Black stated that the steamers, which ply between England and Alexandria, were always kept waiting at the latter place, sometimes more than two days for the Bombay mail, and that every hour of delay on this side only added to the delay in Egypt, and all these delays tending to the inevitable result of an unnecessarily protracted date before the mail reaches England.

14. Another point of much importance in connextion with efficient mail arrangements was also brought to the notice of the Chamber by Captain Black. The P. and O. Company have always a spare steamer at Suez, but even in the best appointed service, and with the most complete arrangements, accidents will happen, and even the spare steamers on occasion are called into requisition.

15. By starting the Bombay steamer so late as is now done in the event of there being no spare steamer at Suez, it might happen, as before now it has happened, that the steamer from Bombay with the English mail might be required on arrival at Suez without a moment's warning, to land the mails and cargo, and forthwith proceed to re-coal and get in order to bring back the mail for India that had already been waiting for days, and these arrangements would, of course, unavoidably increase the delay that in any case would take place in the receipt of the English mail at Bombay.

16. A deliberate consideration of these facts and arguments induced the Chamber to adopt, at the meeting in question, by a large majority the following resolution:—

"That in the opinion of this meeting the convenience and interests of the mercantile community will be best served by closing the Overland Mail at 4 P. M., on the 13th and 28th of every month and by despatching the mail steamer by sunset on those dates." I am, therefore, instructed by the Committee to hand you the resolution, with a view to your having it put forward as early as possible to the proper quarter; and they trust with your own recommendation, that in the interests of the public at large it may be adopted and promptly carried into execution.

17. I regret, however, to observe, that by the somewhat unusual course of writing a letter to the newspapers, on a question which is still the subject of discussion in an unfinished official correspondence between yourself and the Chamber, you appear to have prejudged the question, and in the letter referred to, indicate an opposition to the spirit of the resolution now laid before you.

18. The argument you use in the Newspaper is similar to that put forward in your letter under reply.

19. You say that "a recession to the evening of the 13th and 28th would throw the correspondence of all India 24 hours back inasmuch as the through trains arrive in Bombay in the morning only, and the Chamber do not, I presume, expect that a mere change in the closing hour at Bombay could be advocated against such interests."

20. This argument seems plausible but I doubt whether it be valid? the question at issue is by no means that of "throwing back the correspondence of all India for 24 hours"—but of an acceleration of the delivery of the correspondence of Bombay and the rest of India in England by about a couple of days, an acceleration that might permit mercantile correspondence to be replied to from England without the loss of a mail, and at the same time secure a more uniformly rapid receipt of the mail from England at Bombay.

21. The Chamber was under no "misconception" on the subject adverted to by me, when I said that by the present arrangement for the despatch of the English mail;—"The correspondence of Bombay with England and the rest of Europe is practically locked up for more than twelve hours before the steamer leaves the harbour," inasmuch as between 6 P. M., on the previous evening and 10 A. M. of the morning of the day the steamer leaves, no business can be transacted, though the steamer remains during this interval idle in harbour losing valuable time that would otherwise have afforded an important start to the mail steamer on the voyage homewards.

22. The loss of interest even to Merchants, Bankers, and indeed all engaged in the vast trade of this part of India, in their exchange transactions, caused by this delay, amounts to a very considerable sum in the course of the year.

23. The number of letters and papers posted after 7 P. M. is of no importance as regards the point at issue, if the number posted were over 10,000 instead of 5,000, it would merely show, what most persons are aware of, that the bulk of correspondence

133535

for foreign mails whether here, in England or other parts of Europe, is posted almost at the latest moment that will secure despatch.

24. When I referred in my previous letter to the celerity exhibited by the London Post Office in the despatch of the Marseilles portion of the Indian mail, I was of course well aware that a letter can be posted here by the mail steamer for Suez, to as late an hour, and duly recognised the fact, but this is no answer to the argument of the Committee, which was, that in London, mail day is an entire day suitable for the transaction of all possible business in connection with the despatch of a mail, and that the Post Office was open on the evening of mail day within an hour of the time fixed for despatching the mail: whereas in Bombay, so far as the transaction of business is concerned, the mail really closes, as before stated, about sixteen hours before the mail steamer is despatched.

25. Regarding the question of "the strike and dismissal of the old Post Office peons," and the serious inconvenience to the public occasioned thereby:—I am to state in reference to your remark on the subject, that while the Committee do not deem it expedient to discuss the matter further, they see no occasion for altering or modifying their opinion as expressed in my letter of the 21st October.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, 15*th December* 1864.

No. 108 OF 1865.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge your letter, No. 177 of 15th December 1864, and I address myself to the subject of chief importance in it, viz., the wish of the Chamber of Commerce to recede the starting time of the Overland Mail steamer 17 hours *i. e.* to the evenings of the 13th and 28th of each month, instead of advancing it as previously proposed by them.

2nd. I will submit the Resolution and views of the Chamber to the Government, but, I regret I cannot add, with my recommendation. My duty, as the Chamber must be aware is to consult

the interests of all India as well as that of Bombay, and my conviction still is, that the former will be prejudiced if the last Resolution of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce is carried out.

3rd. The Chamber may possibly have better information than I possess, but as yet, no single instance has been reported to me in which the Homeward mails from Bombay have been detained any appreciable time by the late arrival of the Bombay steamer at Suez, *as resulting from the date and hour of her departure from Bombay*. Detentions may doubtless happen casually from accidental causes such as might occur and have occurred to the mail steamers from Australia and Calcutta, quite as frequently as to those from Bombay, but it constitutes, in my opinion, no fair ground for attributing them to the *hour* of *starting* from Bombay.

I may state here that the present hour of departure from Bombay was fixed after deliberation by the P. and O. Company themselves, who advanced the time five hours longer than was asked viz. to 10 A. M, from 5 A. M. and I conclude it was not done without sound calculations of the power of the Company's vessels and of the expected time of transit from Bombay to Suez. There is, I conceive, therefore, little strength in the argument to recede for such a reason (by 17 hours) the time of the despatch of the mail steamers from Bombay to the certain inconvenience of every station in India except Bombay.

In respect to the supposition that the above recession might permit mercantile correspondence from England to be replied to without loss of a mail; if you will be good enough to refer to the P. and O. Company's time table for the last and present year, you will observe, that, instead of 17 hours, it would require a period of at least three if not four days to enable the Indian mails to reach England in time for reply by the outward steamer.

One of the chief principles upon which the mail arrangements were made, was, that replies might be made *from* India to *English correspondence*, and it would be an entire subversion of this principle were the opposite to regulate the movements of the mail steamers. It is evident that both cannot take place unless greater speed and faster vessels are employed.

The arrangements of the P. and O. Company at Suez of one or more vessels for the mail service is, I think, properly their own concern, and ought not, as far as I can see to affect the question.

The Chamber may not be aware that when the time of departure of the Suez steamer was last altered from the evening to the morning hour, one of the chief arguments brought forward and which influenced the change was, that by the former, the ordinary mercantile business of the day was seriously interrupted

and impeded by the obligation to attend to the overland correspondence which the change to the morning hour of starting has obviated and lessened as proved by the actual correspondence written and posted after 8 P. M.

4th. In respect to the statements made by myself in the public papers I am not sensible that I am at all amenable to any remarks from the Chamber on the subject. I felt bound to contradict an incorrect report made at a public meeting of a public body wherein I was misrepresented, and in doing so, I merely gave, as you admit, public expression to sentiments that had been written and read at the public meeting of the Chamber and which were wrongly reported and therefore necessary to be publicly corrected,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General.

Bombay, Post Master General's office, 16th January 1865.

No. 629 OF 1865.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOMBAY.

SIR,—In conformity with the intention expressed in the 2nd paragraph of my letter, No. 108, 16th January to your address, I have the honor to append the observations of the Director General of the Post Office on the subject of changing the hour of departure of the English Steamers,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General.

Bombay, 28th March 1365.

No. 3494.

From H. B. RIDDELL, Esq.,
Director General of the Post Office.

To the POST MASTER GENERAL, Bombay.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 89, dated the 26th ultimo.

2. It does not appear necessary for me to discuss the representation of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, if they are not

satisfied with your reply they will doubtless address either the Government of Bombay or the Government of India or me.

3. The Chamber appear to forget that the departure of the mail steamer must be fixed with reference to the convenience of the public of India and not of Bombay alone.

4. In future when a request may be made by the Chamber of Commerce or any other body or individual, which, if complied with, would involve an alteration which is beyond the scope of your authority, you had better simply acknowledge its receipt, enter into no discussion and forward it to me with a full statement of your own views.

5. It is obvious that the arrangements connected with the departure of mail steamers from Bombay affect interests and Postals arrangements over the whole of India and cannot be treated as a question solely of Local concern.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. B. RIDDELL,
Director General of the
Post Offices of India.

(True Copy)

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General.

Calcutta, 9th March 1865.

No. 59 OF 1865.

To F. S. CHAPMAN, Esq.,
Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor to hand you herewith a memorial from the members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce to the Right Honorable Lord Stanley, of Alderley, Her Majesty's Post Master General, in support of the memorial of the London merchants and Bankers for a weekly mail to India and the East, on a fixed day of the week, and also praying for the despatch of a weekly mail on a fixed day of the week from this side of India to England.

In handing this memorial to Government for further transmission to Her Majesty's Post Master General, I am directed by

the Committee of the Chamber, respectfully to express their hopes that His Excellency the Governor in Council may be able to support the prayer of the memorial.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 12th April 1865.

No. 57 OF 1865.

TO THE RIGHT HON. LORD STANLEY, OF ALDERLEY, HER MAJESTY'S POST MASTER GENERAL.

THE MEMORIAL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That the Bombay Chamber of Commerce has learned with deep interest and satisfaction, that the principal Merchants and Bankers of London, having trading and monetary relations with India and the East, have addressed a Memorial to your Lordship praying for the establishment of a weekly mail to India on a regular fixed day of the week, and pointing out Friday as the day, which for all mercantile and general purposes would be found most convenient.

That the reasons set forth in the London Memorial for the establishment of a weekly mail to India on a fixed day of the week, have the entire concurrence of the Members of the Chamber, and they earnestly hope that it may be in your Lordship's power, in furtherance of the great interests concerned, to comply with the suggestions and the wishes of the Memorialists, at an early date.

That the reasons given in the London Memorial for a weekly mail to India on a fixed day of the week, apply with equal force in support of the establishment of a weekly mail to England from this side of India.

That the want of weekly mail communication from Bombay to England has been long felt, and the recent completion of telegraphic communication between India and England *via* the Persian Gulf, has now made more frequent means of Postal communication with England than at present exist from Bombay—a first necessity for the satisfactory transaction of mercantile business.

That the geographical position of Bombay, its proximity to Europe as compared with the other Presidency Towns, and the convergence upon it of the leading Indian lines of Railway now

rapidly tending towards completion,—all point to it as the fitting entrepot for weekly postal communication between India and Europe.

Your Memorialists in supporting the London Memorial and asking for the complement of the same, by praying for the establishment of a corresponding weekly despatch of mails from Bombay,—desire in conclusion to say, that the evening of Thursday or the morning of Friday would be the most convenient time of despatch for the mercantile community of this place. And your Memorialists will ever pray, &c.

Ritchie, Steuart & Co.
Ewart. Latham & Co.
Wallace & Co.
W. & A. Graham & Co.
A. H. Huschke & Co.
Rennie; Scovell & Co.
Lyon, Brothers & Co.
Lawrence & Co.
G. S. King & Co.
Martin, Young & Co.
Edward Bates & Co.
Watson, Rogle & Co.
Macindoe, Rogers & Co.
Leggatt & Co.
Stoehr Prieger, & Co.
Comber, Son & Co.
Gaddum & Co.
David Sassoon & Co.
Knoop & Co.
J. N. Wadias Sons & Co.
Ashburner, Bell & Co.
Agra & Mastermans Bank.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.
The Comptoire d'Escompte De Paris.
The Presidency Bank, Limited.
Royal Bank of India.
Hindustan, China & Japan Bank, Limited.
William Nicol & Co.
Grey & Co.
Campbell, Mitchell & Co.
Finlay, Scott & Co.
Cardwell, Parsons & Co.
Peel, Cassels &o.
Finlay, Clark & Co.
Robinson & Co.
Killick, Nexon & Co.
Framjee, Sands & Co.
Volkart Brothers.
A. C. Brice & Co.
Charles Macdonald & Co.
Stearns, Hobart & Co.
Siegfried & Co.
J. Sigg & Co.
Nasmyth & Co.
H. Classon & Co.
Hah Kuhn & Co.
Roper, Price & Co.
Ward & Warland.
Montaulard & Tallada.
Commercial Bank of India.
Mercantile Chartered Bank of India, London and China.
Financial Association of India and China.
Scinde, Punjaub, and Delhi Bank Corporation.
Bombay City Bank.

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 12th April 1865.

No. 677 of 1865.

General Department.

To the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Sir,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to state, for the information of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, that the Memorial* submitted with your letter, dated the 12th inst., was forwarded to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India by the mail of the 14th idem, with the favourable recommendation of this Government,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

*To the address of the Right Honorable Lord Stanley of Alderley, Her Majesty's Postmaster General, relative to the Establishment of a Weekly Mail Service between England and Bombay.

(Signed) F. S. Chapman,
Offg. Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 19*th April* 1865.

APPENDIX. F.

TRAFFIC WORKING OF THE G. I. P. RAILWAY.

No. 4 OF 1865.

To COLONEL H. RIVERS,
Secretary to Government in the Railway Department, Bombay

SIR,—The Chamber of Commerce in its own interests and those of the public, felt it a duty in May last to call a special meeting of the members to consider the very unsatisfactory character of the arrangements for working the Goods Traffic on the G. I. P. Railway—and not the goods traffic merely, but the mismanagement of the passenger traffic entered largely into the discussion.

2. The meeting unanimously resolved that the inefficient working of the Railway called for the immediate and energetic interference of Government, and that Government should be addressed on the subject by the Chairman of the Chamber.

3. A letter was accordingly addressed by the then Chairman, to the Chief Secretary to Government, in terms of the resolution in question; and to this communication an answer was received from the Secretary to Government in the Railway Department, dated 31st May, defending in general the management of the Railway Company, and that in a manner so unqualified as to excite surprise—seeing that less than a year before, Government led the way in publicly condemning the management of the Railway Company in almost every department, while no improvement in the interval had been in any way perceptible to the public.

4. Unsatisfactory as this letter was considered to be, the Chamber did not on the occasion of its receipt, deem it expedient

to make any immediate reply; as however inadequate it seemed as an answer to the representations made in the letter from the Chairman, no useful result could be expected to follow from a discussion in which the facts connected with the state of matters complaining of were disputed and called in question.

5. Six months, however, passed away, without, in the opinion of the Chamber, bringing any improvement; and last month, at two general meetings of the Chamber of Commerce, the G. I. P. Railway, in more than one aspect of its management and affairs, formed the subject of much serious discussion.

6. At the second meeting, held on the 8th ultimo, when the general traffic arrangements of the Railway were again fully discussed, the following resolution was unanimously agreed to :—

"That the explanation afforded by the Government with regard to the various defaults complained of in the management of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, is unsatisfactory. That the experiences of the last six months shows that the vague promises of improvement have in no way been realized. The double line to the foot of the Thull Ghaut has not, so far as the Chamber can ascertain, been sanctioned, and the continued irregularity in the working of the trains, and the serious delay, irregularity and loss in dealing with the Traffic calls for a most emphatic protest from this Chamber against so serious a neglect of the public interests and convenience, and that a representation to this effect be made to Government."

7. In handing up this resolution, I am directed by the Committee to express their regret that it should still be necessary to occupy the attention of Government with a subject which has already absorbed its time to a large extent, but their excuse must be the magnitude of the interest, involved in the right direction and management of the Railway system in this part of India.

8. Referring to the Government letter of the 31st May, which may be considered very much as a defence of the management of the G. I. P. Railway as matters then were, and still are—it approves entirely of the course pursued by the Railway Company in issuing a notice in the end of April last not to receive cotton for transmission on the North Eastern line after the 5th May. "Government," says the letter, "is of opinion the Company were quite warranted in declining to take charge of any traffic over this break (the Thull Ghaut) to which they felt they could not do justice."

9. The preliminary question, however, arises, why could the Railway Company not do justice to this traffic? It did not come upon the Company suddenly: they were for years preparing, or supposed to be preparing, for it: no Railway Company in fact could approach more gradually the work they might fairly be expected to perform than the G. I. P. Railway Company, which had years of experience in working portions of their line without pressure of any kind, and ample time to make the most complete preparations for a great cotton traffic the prospect of which was not the least of the inducements which weighed with the Governments both in India and in England in granting those important privileges which conduced to the undertaking.

10. The lamentable break-down of the traffic department, and the defects in the general management shown in the correspondence published in the monsoon of 1863, with the sanction of Government, might have been expected to have brought about a great improvement in all departments. The notice, however, of the 19th April last, proves the very opposite: it showed that the railway authorities had indeed become prudent in their own interests in the face of previous losses; but it also revealed an incapacity on the part of the Company to perform the carrying work they had undertaken, which was anything but creditable.

11. The effect of the unexpected announcement to which I have just referred, was to injure the immediate prospects of a new branch of the cotton trade but freshly opened up in districts into which the extension of the railway had for some years been looked forward to as the best means of development, and to paralyse to a considerable extent the trade in the principal article of export in this Presidency at the busiest and most critical moment of the season.

12. In the eighth para care is taken to show how much larger an amount of cotton has been imported from districts now tapped by the G. I. P. Railway, and carried at much lower rates than was formerly the case, but it may be doubted whether this kind of argument fairly meets the main question at issue.

13. That a goods traffic would be carried faster, better, and cheaper by the Railway than by any other mode of transit, was, as a matter of course, taken for granted when the State guaranteed liberal interest on the capital expended on Railway undertakings.

14. What the mercantile public have to complain of is, that the Railway Company with their enormous appliances, with years of warning as to the kind of work expected of them, and

after having shut up, or nearly so; every other mode of transit, should have failed so completely, through bad organization, to do the work they were with a good reason expected to accomplish at the proper time and season when the cotton was so eagerly required for export.

15. During the past six months, the Committee regret having to state that the experience of merchants and the public generally does not point to any improvement in the management. The goods of merchants are not delivered more rapidly, and are not received in better condition, than during the state of matters that has already been so much complained of.

16. At the meeting of the Chamber held on the 8th ultimo, statements were made by several members from personal knowledge and experience, showing very great irregularity in the receipt and transmission of goods, and the difficulty of obtaining redress, or of fixing responsibility with any one department when complaints were made.

17. The feeling of insecurity that has been engendered in the minds of the public from the number of accidents which have occurred within the last eight months, is also in itself a serious evil, and is aggravated by the impression which widely prevails, that these, in some instances at least, were attributable to defective arrangements and bad management.

18. In the discussions at the Chamber's meeting above referred to, it was in evidence that much of the disorganization in the working of the G. I. P. Railway so generally complained of, was caused by the loss of many of the Company's oldest and most experienced servants. The staff of the Company were as a rule said to be much over-worked and indifferently paid, and the consequence was that many of the best servants took advantage of the first opening that presented itself to better their condition, and gave up the Railway service.

19. Though the Committee have no doubt of the truth of the statement on this point made at the meeting, they are also well aware that this phase of the subject is one which is not within their province to discuss; and they only refer to it as in itself an element of the first importance in securing an efficient working establishment, and one which well deserves the consideration of Government in any general suggestions it may think necessary to bring before the body responsible for the good management of the Railway.

20. The accounts of the Railway Company for the half year ending 30th June last, show that a sum exceeding three and a

half lacs—more than ten per cent. of the gross receipts—had been paid as compensation for losses. A tithe probably of this large sum, spent in a well considered augmentation of the pay of the Railway staff, might effectively prevent any similar occurrence.

21. Government in its letter of the 31st May, referred to the doubling of the line to Callian, which it had recommended in November 1863, as likely to aid in an effectual manner the carrying powers of the Railway, but though another November has since come and gone, there is no evidence that this important imporvement has even been taken into consideration by the Directors in England, far less any appearance of its being commenced. In conclusion, the Committee, though unprepared with any "specific" recommendation for the immediate improvement of the Railway management, which they desire to press on the attention of Government, yet they trust that in the foregoing remarks there may be found some points which Government, as the guardian of the public interests, may conceive to be a duty to bring to the special notice of the Directors of the Railway, that they may be induced so to improve the management as to make the undertaking which they direct, the great benefit which it ought to be to the people and the commerce of this side of India,—I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber Commerce, 16th January 1865.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I have received and laid before Government the Chamber's letter, and am directed to make the following reply:—

2. The Chamber of Commerce object to the statements and opinions advanced in Government letter of 31st May 1864. They consider that Government should not have supported the Railway Company, when they declined to receive unpressed cotton on the North-Eastern line after a date which allowed them to clear all off before the rains.

3. His Excellency in Council is still of opinion that the Railway Company were justified in thus acting. They had the former year done all they could in obtaining the best carting contractor

in Bombay to cart goods over the unavoidable break at the Thul Ghaut; he had miserably disappointed them in the monsoon, and had rendered the Company liable for about 3 lacs of compensation for rain-damaged cotton, and there was good reason to believe that the contractor's failure was owing in a great measure to natural causes inherent in a break of line in such an inhospitable country, and where the rains are so heavy as on the Ghauts, and that no skill nor expenditure would have availed to prevent serious delay and injury to goods at such a point in the monsoon season.

4. The Chamber of Commerce consider the statistics brought forward by Government in their letter ought not fairly to be brought into argument: but when the Chamber of Commerce stated that the Railway Company had quite disappointed the public, Government naturally looked to see what the Railway Company had done, what had been done for the public previously without their aid, and what was the quantity the Company might reasonably have supposed they would be called upon to do.

5. His Excellency in Council in no way meant to imply that the Railway had carried all that might have been expected, or that they had carried even that amount punctually and without loss.

6. Referring to the Government letter of the 31st May the Ch[illegible] expressed disappointment that the doubling of the line [illegible] Government had recommended in November ber [illegible] November 1864.

7. [illegible] this Government and the Bombay Direct[illegible] was required to convince London Di[illegible] of this work; and the chief power for [illegible] expenditure has been placed, not in Bomba[illegible] and partly in London. The doubling th[illegible] sanctioned by the Secretary of State in D[illegible]

8. Having thus taken up the points in your letter under reply, which refer to Government letter of 31st May, I am directed to make the following remarks on the general subject of the letter of the Chamber. They complain of the delay in transit of goods, the irregularity in working trains (paras. 15, 16, 17), the insufficiency of the pay given to the establishment (paras. 18 and 19), and loss in (para. 20.)

9. Government concur with the Chamber in the opinion expressed, that the goods traffic has not been worked with that

promptitude and punctuality which the public might reasonably expect, and that, as to passenger traffic, the number of accidents have been greater than there is any excuse for.

10. They believe that this arises from want of a sufficient number of good Inspectors and Superintendents who should travel along the line and see that all the station staff are performing their duties; also to the peculiar state in which Bombay has been during the last year, creating the demand for all men of any education and knowledge of accounts; the difficulties attendant on working a heavy traffic on a single line; and the unfinished break at the Thull Ghaut.

11. His Excellency in Council will not fail to press on the Directors both here and at home, the necessity of making their servants more satisfied with their condition in giving them not only better salaries, but in showing a greater care for them by giving them residences, and generally looking after their condition; but Government do not concur in the Chamber's opinion that this increase, had it been given last year, would sensibly have diminished the amount the Company had to pay for cotton burnt and destroyed—the causes for which loss having been more complicated.

12. His Excellency in Council is also of opinion that measures should be adopted for doubling the line between Callian and Kurjut, and Lanowlee and Poona, as he is convinced that when once such a large traffic has been established it is mistaken economy not to supply the second line at the comparatively small additional cost; and that as traffic increases the danger is great in running many fast and slow trains in opposite directions on a single line, relying for security on the vigilance of a telegraph signaller.

13. And while recording his opinion that the G. I. P. Railway have been but partially successful during last year in doing the work of the public as efficiently, punctually, and profitably as was possible, he would also ask the Chamber of Commerce to recollect that a Railway is after all an engine suited to a country in a high state of civilization, where labor is organized, and where all the many wants of a Railway in full work can be met. There is in Bombay no well organized carrying company to remove goods, there are no large establishments whence engines or stock can be obtained on a short notice, nor a well supplied market for labor, skilled or unskilled.

14. The public are too apt to compare Indian Railways with those of France and England, where all these appliances are

found, and to expect from managers of an Indian Railway the same work which an English one easily performs. If compared with Railways in other countries even higher advanced than India, such as Egypt, America, or the Colonies, the comparison would be more equitable; the G. I. P. as one of the best of Indian Railways would bear the comparison.

15. It must also be borne in mind that this engine, such as it is, has been provided not entirely by the Indian Government or with Indian capital, but chiefly with English capital belonging to shareholders, most of whom are resident in England. The Governor in Council believes that it would be better for the shareholders, as well as for the public, if the Railways were managed more entirely in India. But it is not unnatural that the English shareholders should require strong arguments to convince them of this, and till they are convinced much time is required to effect any change, however fully convinced Government may be of its necessity, and however anxious to carry it out.

16. I am directed, in conclusion, to state, that if the Chamber of Commerce have ever any definite suggestions for improving the Railway adminstration, such for instance as to stations, or branches, or fares, establishments, time tables, &c., Government will always give the recommendation their best consideration; and I am further desired to state, that Government could more profitably deal with complaints which gave clear statements with particulars of goods lost or detained, or other service ill performed, than with general charges of mismanagement such as those contained in your letter.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) M. K. KENNEDY, Lieut.-Col.,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 22nd February 1865.

APPENDIX G.

RAILWAY PROGRESS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

No. 151 OF 1865.

To CAPTAIN S. OSBORN, C. B. R. N.

Agent G. I. P. Railway Company, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to request that you will kindly furnish them with a statement of the progress of the Company's work with particulars of the probable date at which such portions as are far advanced will be opened; the statement is required for their annual report, the Committee will therefore be glad to receive such particulars as you deem of interest to the mercantile community. The report will be read about the 26th September next and it would be convenient to the Chamber if the statement could be furnished prior to that date.—I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary

Bombay, 11*th September* 1865.

No. 4612 of 1865.

To James Taylor, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 11st instant, to the address of the Agent, which shall have attention.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. Thomson,
Secretary to the Agent.

Bombay, 13*th September* 1865.

No. 4829 of 1865.

To James Taylor, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Sir,—With reference to my letter No. 4612 of the 13th instant, I have the honor to forward herewith as requested, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, a statement of the progress of the Company's operations during the year ending 30th June 1865. I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) S. Osborn,
Captain Royal Navy and Agent.

Bombay, 22nd September 1865.

Memorandum of the progress of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway during the year ending 30th June 1865, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce.

A further section of the Nagpoor Branch, from Mulkapoor to Sheegaum, was opened for public traffic on the 24th of October, and the Thul Ghaut Incline was opened for goods on the 27th of December and for passengers on the 1st of February.

The total length of Open Line is 591 miles, exclusive of the temporary line to Campoolee which is not now used.

The Line under construction is 676¼ miles in length, divided into the following contracts :—

part of No. 13	Sheagaum to Buduaira	72¼ miles.
No. 14	Buduaira to Nagpoor	108 „
part of No. 15	Bhosawul Junction to Hurda	136½ „
No. 16	Hurda to Sohagpoor	82 „
No. 17	Sohagpoor to Jubbulpoor	119 „
No. 18	Sholapoor to Kulburga	70½ „
No. 19	Kulburga to Raichoor	88¼ „
		676¼ miles.

The remainder of No. 13 contract will be ready for opening shortly, and a further portion of No. 15 contract, from Bhosawul Junction to Kundwa, or about 75 miles will be opened about January next.

No. 18 contract has been lately commenced and No. 19 is about to be let.

The Electric Telegraph is being erected between Bosawul and Jubbulpoor.

A second line of rails from Callian to Kussara is being constructed.

(Signed) J. R. Rushton,
Chief Resident Engineer.

Chief Resdt. Engr's Office, Bombay, 20th September 1865.

No. 152 of 1865.

To C. Curry, Esq.,
Managing Agent, B. B. & C. I. Railway, Bombay.

Sir,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to request that you will kindly furnish them with a statement of the progress of the Company's work with particulars of the probable date at which such portions as are far advanced will be opened; the statement is required for their annual Report, the Committee will, therefore, be glad to receive such

particulars as you deem of interest to the mercantile community. The Report will be read about the 26th September next and it would be convenient to the Chamber if the statement could be furnished prior to that date.—I remain, Sir, &c.

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, 11th September 1865.

No. 4593 OF 1865.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

1. SIR,—In reply to your communication of the 11th instant, I have the honor to state, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, as follows :—

2. The B. B. & C. I. Railway is now open for a distance of 306 miles, from Bombay to Ahmedabad, but of this only 186 miles from Baroda to Ahmedabad can be considered as open both for passenger and goods traffic; the remainder cannot be deemed open for much more than passenger traffic as the goods premises and arrangements at all the stations south of Bulsar, including Bombay are unfinished.

3. In Bombay, the extension of the Railway across Back Bay to its future terminus at Colaba, depends, of course, upon the completion of the reclamation.

4. The present passenger station between Bellasis and Falkland Road is of a temporary character, and only intended to be used until a permanent passenger station is erected at Grant Road, the works for which are also the overbridges are being proceeded with as quickly as possible.

5. The goods premises at Grant Road are as yet only so far finished as to accommodate but a small quantity of traffic, which we are just beginning to receive. Every effort is being made to complete this goods station which will be supplemented temporarily, until the line gets to Colaba, by sidings on a strip of land alongside of the Railway between Malabar Point road and Chowpatty, and by a few acres of reclaimed land at Chowpatty as soon as ready.

6. The Company will convey during the forthcoming season, as much goods traffic to and from Bombay, as their existing accommodation at Grant Road, and their rolling stock, both of which are as yet limited, will allow.

7. At Parell, a suitable Junction with the G. I. P. Line together with the necessary sidings, will be laid down as soon as possible, in order to facilitate the free exchange of traffic between the two systems, arrangements for which are under consideration.

8. With regard to the Bridges over the great rivers crossed by the Railway, I avail myself of this opportunity of stating in the hope of allaying any public anxiety about them, that in addition to the steps taken by the Engineers of the Company to strengthen them prior to the present monsoon, further measures for the permanent consolidation of such of the structures as require it, are being carefully considered.

9. With respect to extensions of the Railway, I may state that the question of the concession with the 5 per cent. guarrantee to this Company of Railway from Baroda to Neemuch via the Mhye valley with the view of ultimately carrying the line from Neemuch to Delhi and Agra now rests with Government. I annex a printed copy of some correspondence as to the Baroda and Neemuch Section, which may be interesting to the Chamber.

10. I also entertain hopes that an arrangement will be shortly arrived at, whereby a branch line from Ahmedabad to Veeruagaum and Woodwan, on the unguaranteed principle, will be made as part of the Railway system of this Company,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) CHARLES CURREY,
Managing Agent.

Bombay, 21st September 1865.

APPENDIX H.

RAILWAY TERMINUS ACCOMMODATION.

No 176 of 1864.

To Col. Harry Rivers,
Secretary to Government in the Railway Department,
Bombay.

Sir,—In reference to the important and pressing question of Railway Terminus Accommodation in Bombay, and the report on this subject from the Chamber of Commerce laid before Government in a letter from my predecessor, on the 8th of March last, to which no answer has been received nor even an acknowledgment of the receipt of the communication:—

2. I have now the honor to inform you that this question having been again brought before a large meeting of the Chamber held on the first instant, the following resolutions were, after a full discussion, unanimously adopted:—

1. "That it is with surprise and regret that the Chamber now "learn that the representation made to the Government in March "last upon the question of Railway Terminus Accommodation in "Bombay still remains unanswered, and that so far as can be "ascertained no efforts are being made to lessen the evils caused by "the almost intolerable nuisance and insufferable annoyance of the "Railway crossing all the Bunders on a level, causing a dead lock "in the great thoroughfares for the carriage of merchandize be-"tween the Bunders and the native town for more than half the "working day.

2. "That a further representation be made to Government "upon this most important question, and it is hoped if it is not "practicable for the Government to change the site of the pro-

"posed passenger terminus from Mody Bay to Grant Road and "Colaba, that at least His Excellency in Council will take measures "for the Railway being taken into Mody Bay on a high level, or "provide a sufficient number of over-bridges and so avert the "disastrous consequences which the present system of level cross-"ings is calculated to cause to the trade of the port."

3. In placing these resolutions before His Ecellency the Governor in Council, I am instructed by the Committee to express their deep regret that a question of such vital importance, on a right settlement of which the proper regulation of the traffic which now blocks our streets, and crowds our wharves and bunders, so entirely depends,—should have been treated with so much apparent indifference.

4. The Committee cannot bring themselves to believe any slight or want of proper courtesy to the Chamber of Commerce is intended, but they respectfully submit that an explanation on this point is at last required, when what, they must be permitted to designate, a report so well considered, as that forwarded from the Chamber in March last, has remained without reply.

5. The Committee have much to say on this question, and all in opposition to the course, which, according to the information before them, they believe Government are now pursuing and possibly intend to pursue, but they refrain from futher discussion of the subject, even though of such pressing importance, till they receive an answer from Government to the report which the Chamber has already laid before it.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 12th December 1864.

No. 9 OF 1865.

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY of the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the recepit of your letter,* No. 29 of the 8th March last, forwarding copy of a Resolution of

* See page 25 Report for 1863-64.

the Chamber and of the report of a sub-committee on the subject of the G. I. P. Railway crossing, and generally on the terminal accommodation provided and proposed in Bombay.

I have also received and laid before Government the Chamber's letter of the 13th instant, and to request you will inform them that the delay in replying to the first named letter was not due to the matter being considered one of indifference still less that any slight was intended to be put on the Chamber of Commerce.

Its receipt might have been as remarked by you acknowledged; and I am directed to express the regret of His Excellency in Council that this was not done, but no definite answer could have been given on the main question until Government had before them the opinions of the Directors of the Railway Company both here and at home.

The Railway Company's letter in reply to my letter of the 3rd of March is dated the 20th December and received on the 21st, this was with the Chamber's last letter submitted to Government without delay, and I am desired to communicate the views of Government thereon.

The Railway Company estimate that raising their line and their terminal station at Mody Bay as suggested by the Chamber would cost 65 lacs, and the rent from godowns after providing for the necessary thoroughfares would not return 2 per cent. on the outlay they represent that the Company's receipts and the public conveniences would suffer by the line being raised above the wharf traffic, and that the Company would lose money and the public Railway accommodation during the time the high level line was being constructed, they point out further that by erecting four over-bridges and making the broad road already arranged for on the East of the Railway, all danger and inconvenience of the level crossings might be removed and the gates closed.

The Governor in Council must admit the force of much here advanced, he is of opinion that the expense of raising the line puts its further consideration out of the question as all seem agreed that a raised line would be less convenient for every kind of traffic than one on the present level, and that more discussion would only delay the immediate carrying out of the works absolutely necessary for the safety of the public travelling on the Railway and the conveniences of those crossing it.

Government believe that the four over-bridges above spoken of connected with each other by a good road with possibly the addition of an over foot-bridge or two will remove all causes of dis-

satisfaction and of danger. As to the Chamber's remarks on the site of the Mody Bay passenger terminus and its comparative merits with that proposed by Colonel Rivers, I am desired to point out that Government cannot discuss the comparative merits of this and of other possible termini as they are bound to fulfil the engagement made with the Railway Company several years ago by former Governments unless the Railway Company had agreed to accept the other site proposed and this they have repeatedly and decidedly declined to do.

As to the Chamber's remarks on the use that should be made of the junction station at Parell, I am desired to point out that it was designed for the very object stated in the sub-committee's report.

Government will use their best endeavours to make an early settlement between the two Railway Companies how the working of the two extensions from this point to Colaba on one side and Waree and Boree Bunders on the other is to be conducted without danger or confusion and by some system that will ensure the interests of both railways being equally cared for, and as the experience of lines at home will be the best guide in this matter and the final decision must rest with the London Boards, His Excellency in Council proposes to have the basis on which the plan is to be arranged to be drawn up at home,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) HARRY RIVERS,
Lieutenant-Colonel R. E., Secretary to Govt.

Bombay Castle, 4th January 1865.

APPENDIX I.

WHARF ACCOMMODATION AND WHARFAGE FEES.

No. 3536 of 1864.

From [illegible], Esq.,

[illegible] of Customs.

To the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,—In forwarding for your information the accompanying copy of Government resolution No. 3846 of the 5th instant, I request the favor of the Chamber's Nominee being intimated to me at your early convenience, should the Chamber be disposed to co-operate with Government in the discussion and settlement of the matter adverted to.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) Geo. Inverarity,

Commissioner of Customs.

Bombay, Office of Commr. of Customs, 7th October 1864.

No. 3846 OF 1864.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the COMMISSIONER of CUSTOMS, SALT, and OPIUM.

Resolution of Government.

SIR,—In the concessions to reclaim portions of the foreshore of the Island of Bombay on the harbour side which have been granted during the last few years, Government has reserved a right to fix and regulate the wharfage fees to be levied by the proprietors of the wharves to be constructed. It appears, therefore, desirable, that Government should be placed in possession of information and opinions on the subject, which will enable them to exercise this right on principles equitable both to the public (on whose behalf Government have reserved to themselves the right in question) and to the capitalists who have invested their capital in the construction of the wharves.

2. The whole subject of wharfage accommodation and wharfage dues is one on which there is at present a great want of full and definite information, and on which early enquiry seems desirable.

3. The Governor in Council considers that the objects he has in view will be best attained by the appointment of a Committee, consisting of the following members:—

The Commissioner of Customs, as President; two nominees of the Chamber of Commerce unconnected with wharfage property; one nominee from each large wharf or wharfage company; one nominee from each of the Railway companies.

4. The Committee should be requested to take into consideration the following points:—

1. What wharfage accommodation exists or is in prospect of formation?

2. How far is it sufficient for the present and prospective wants of the port?

3. Is any action of Government required for the increase or regulation of the existing accommodation?

4. What wharfage dues are now levied, including Government wharves?

5. Under what rules are these dues levied, and whether there appears to be any fixed principle in their regulation?

5. The Committee should be invited to offer suggestions with regard to the future system, including the Government wharves, comparing the rates proposed with those levied at other ports, in England and in India, and in foreign ports out of India.

6. The Commissioner of Customs may be addressed to the above effect, and requested to suggest the details required to give effect to the intentions of Government.

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,
Offg. Under Secy. to Govt.

(True Copy.)
GEO. INVERARITY,
Commissioner of Customs.

Bombay Castle, 5th October 1864.

No. 129 OF 1864.

To GEO. INVERARITY, Esq.,

Commissioner of Customs, Salt, and Opium.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2536 of 1864, dated 7th instant, and in reply I am to state that the Chamber will have much pleasure in co-operating with Government "in the discussion and settlement" of the important questions referred to in the Government Resolution, copy of which accompained your letter.

I have further the honor to inform you that A. Stewart, Esq., (of the firm of Messrs. Finlay, Scott and Co.) Deputy Chairman, and A. C. Brice, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. A. C. Brice and Co., have been appointed as the nominees of the Chamber on the Committee appointed by Government.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, October 14th 1864.

No. 2606 OF 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, 20 printed copies of the Extract from the Proceedings of Government in this Department, No. 2548, dated the 16th instant, on the subject of Wharfage Accommodation and Wharfage Dues.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) J. S. CHAPHAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 20th June 1865.

No. 2548.

EXTRACT *from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Revenue Department, dated 16th June* 1865.

Read the following papers:—

Letter from G. Inverarity, Esq., Commissioner of Customs, and President Wharf Committee, to F. S. Chapman, Esq., Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, No. 1072, dated 28th April 1865.

Have the honor to forward the Report of the Wharf Committee, which was directed to assemble in the Government Resolution, No. [illegible], dated the 9th December 1864. Resolution marginally noted.

2. Mr. Gavin Steel having left Bombay, and Mr. Hoare not now being Secretary to the G. I. P. R. Company, their signatures have not been attached to the Report.

Report of the Committee appointed by Government Resolution, No. 3846, of the 5th October 1864.

1. The following are the Wharves at present existing in the Port of Bombay, the accommodation afforded by each, and the purposes to which they are applied.

Pilot Bunder.—Taking them in geographical order, first in the list stands Pilot Bunder, which is an insignificant jetty at lower Colaba quite unsuited for goods, and therefore only occasionally for landing coals, and some Marine stores. It is the property of Government, and a portion of it is now rented by the British India Steam Navigation Company as a Coal and Store Depot.

Reclamation Bunder.—Then succeeds a long strip of reclaimed shore adapted for Bunder space, but at present occupied by low class houses. This has been applied for for reclamation purposes, but has not yet been entirely alienated, a portion only adjoining the Victoria Bunder having been appropriated for the purpose of aiding the reclamation of Back Bay.

Victoria Bunder.—This is chiefly used for the landing and shipment of cotton, wool, and seeds. The sea frontage now available is 1,000 feet.

The Company to whom it lately belonged intended to increase the entire water frontage to 2,860 feet, and the present area of 57,466 square yards to 109,364 square yards.

This Bunder has, however, been sold to the United Victoria and Colaba Company, by whom the intended extension will doubtless be completed.

Gun Carriage Department.—Between this and the Colaba Land Company's property lies an area of 41,848 square yards, with unreclaimed water frontage of 585 feet, at present held by the Gun Carriage Department.

Colaba Land Company's Property.—The Colaba Land Company's property comprises an area of 139,257 square yards, two small jetties, the Arthur and Jamsetjee, each between 300 and 400 feet in length, but of narrow width, with 2,971 feet of water frontage. These jetties are used chiefly for the import and export of cotton, wool, and seeds. Both have come into the possession of the United Victoria and Colaba Land Company, who have plans for their extension.

B. B. & C. I. Bunder.—Adjoining the Arthur Bunder the Baroda Railway Company will have available a wharf with 600 feet of sea frontage, and of 73,804 square yards in the rear. The work is being carried out under Government.

Apollo or Wellington Bunder.—From the boundary of the Bombay Baroda and Central India Railway Company's land to the Dock-yard wall a reclamation of 22¼ acres, with a water frontage of 2,695 feet, is in slow progress, but meanwhile there exists the

Vellington Bunder, about 800 feet long and 160 feet
s used chiefly for undutiable goods and passenger
tton, wool, and treasure, are brought to it in large
ut no room is available for the storage of goods. A
es per bale is levied on cotton landed here, and the
this toll go to the Public Works Department.

ington Pier is capable of being vastly improved, and
e appointed by Government to investigate the subject
the best means of doing this in their Report, dated
vember 1863, recommending that the Pier should be
d with a T head, its area being extended to 18,165
s, and the sea frontage to 1,060 feet. No action of
, however, appears to have followed that Report and
ent Government Resolution of the 17th Decem-

nding Stage and Ground taken from the Dock-yard.—
the Dock-yard, 50,000 square yards in extent, will
for the purposes of trade and passenger traffic as
rtain sanctioned improvements have been com-

or Fort Custom House Bunder.—This Pier extends
et into the sea, is 70 feet wide, and possesses addi-
ge accommodation at right angles on either side;
a frontage available for landing and shipping cargo
1,990 feet. The chief portion of the dutiable im-
xport trade of the Port comes to this Bunder, for
vell situated, being close to the Custom House, and
site that portion of the harbour mostly used by the
The accommodation, however, is much too restricted,
not be extended without a considerable por-
Arsenal premises being added to the present

—Boree Bunder.—Modee Bay comes next in order
t it is unavailable beyond about 2,000 feet of water
oree Bunder. The ground in the rear and vicinity
ge having been rented out as Store-yards to the
Companies, few facilities have been left for the ge-

Carnac, Clare, and Elphinstone Bunders, opposite t Town.—These are the properties of the Elphinstone L pany. At present they provide a frontage of 7,745 a storage area of 1,94,710 square yards. They are largely by the coasting trade for country goods and every description.

Musjid Bunder.—Is the property of Government, an ed between the Clare and Carnac Bunders: it gives a age of 1,200 feet, with accommodation for storing go extent of 35,148 square yards. This Bunder also is la by the coasting trade for country goods and ge duce.

Mazagon Bunder.—A small jetty at Mazagon, u commercial purposes, and therefore used only for baggage and treasure. It belongs to Government.

The intermediate space between this and the Ku is occupied by the Viegas' Patent Slip and the P. pany's premises.

Kussara Bunder.—A swamp now used for timber, ting of a good water frontage and of a large area in t ing reclaimed.

MAZAGON LAND RECLAMATION COMPANY

Quinpoole Works Bunder.—Unavailable at pros [illegible] a water frontage of 4,600 feet, and a gr [illegible] square yards.

Tank Bunder.—This is a swamp of about 50 acr with a raised roadway running through it, and is for the timber trade.

Coles, Kandler, Sion, Worlee, Mahim, and Chowp are Bunders merely in name, being portions of [illegible] vided with Piers or landing facilities of any descri [illegible] are largely used, however, for firewood, hay, pottery fresh fish, and cudjans. The Chowpatty Bunder has [illegible] into the Bombay Reclamation Company's rights.

2. The foregoing accommodation in its existing s

ly insufficient for the present and prospective wants of the Port, but several schemes are in progress under private Companies and Government which will supply the accommodation so greatly needed.

3. The Elphinstone Land Company have extensive reclamations in hand, which, when completed, will afford for general purposes an area of 11,73,602 square yards, with a sea frontage of 16,170 feet, the same being inclusive of roads, but exclusive of land made over to the Government and the Railway Company, and exclusive of basins. The whole of this work will, it is expected, be completed within five years, and by the end of 1865 the Company will complete and hand over to Government for use, jointly with the Railway Company, an additional space of 390,362 square yards, with a sea frontage of 4,311 feet.

4. As previously stated in paragraph 1, the Baroda Railway Company will have at their terminus between the Wellington and Arthur Bunders a wharf with a sea frontage of 500 feet, and accommodation for storing goods of 73,804 square yards.

5. The proposed extension of the Victoria Bunder has also been noticed in the same paragraph; and the Committee believe that the new Proprietors, the United Victoria and Colaba Land Company, will, for their own interests, prosecute the work with energy.

6. The old Musjid Bunder will soon be shut out from the sea by the reclamations of the Elphinstone Company, but will be replaced by a new Bunder and Basin, with a sea frontage of 1,200 feet, and accommodation to the extent of 45148, square yards, adjacent to the new wharf of the G. I. P. Railway Company. This new Musjid Bunder will be supplied to Government free of cost by the Elphinstone Land Company.

7. Two additional Joint Stock Companies, viz., the Mazagon Land and Reclamation Company and the Frere Land Company, have lately been incorporated with the view of reclaiming certain portions of the foreshore of the harbour between Mazagon and Sewree, and thereby adding to the wharf accommodation of the Port. The Committee have not yet been favored with an inspection of the plans of these Companies, but believe that their in-

tended operations will, when completed, afford considerable assistance to the trade of the Port.

8. On the part of Government the reclamation of Modee Bay and of Apollo Bay, and the improvement of Tank Bunder, remain to be effected. The reclamation of Modee Bay will give an additional sea frontage of 6,527 feet, and accommodation to the extent of 178 acres, or 8,61,520 square yards. In the opinion of the Committee no exertion should be spared by Government to bring this work to a completion. The most valuable frontage for commercial purposes in the whole Island of Bombay is Modee Bay, and its reclamation will afford very large returns to Government. If funds, therefore, are not immediately available, the Committee recommend that they be raised on loan, and the reclamation diligently prosecuted. Much of the low-lying portion of the land reclaimed, and not required for public purposes, would be sold at a high profit, while a portion of the frontage could be let out on short leases for commercial purposes.

9. The Tank and Kussara Bunders could be improved at small cost. The material taken from the basin could be thrown up all round, so as to form yards for storing timber, the rental from which would yield a most profitable return to Government. The Committee earnestly beg to impress upon Government the state of these Bunders. They form the chief timber depot of the Island, but in their present state cause the greatest inconvenience, loss of time, and expense to the trade, as little business can be done at them except during spring tides. This subject appears to have been frequently urged upon Government by the Collector of Customs, but without success.

10. The Apollo Bay reclamation and the proposed improvement of the Wellington Pier have been already noticed in paragraph 1, and as the Dockyard Government have, in their Resolution No. 641 of the 18th February 1865, sanctioned the appropriation of about 80,000 square yards, with a sea frontage of 450 feet for Custom House purposes, and the work will soon be in progress under the Public Works Department, it is further intended that a landing stage for passengers be erected in this locality.

11. With the above schemes carried to completion the present and prospective wharf accommodation in the Port of Bombay

will be as follows, the proportion between Government and private wharves being separately distinguished:—

Names of Bunders, &c.	Area.		Sea Frontage.	
	Present Yards.	Prospective Yards.	Present Feet.	Prospective Feet.
Government Property.				
Apollo or Wellington Pier	12,277	18,165	860	1,060
Apollo Bay Reclamation..	.....	1,07,690	.....	2,695
Public Landing Stage and Ground to be taken from the Dock-yard. ...	.....	50,000	.....	450
Town or Fort Custom House Bunder	12,068	12,068	1,990	1,990
Mody Bay Reclamation, including Boree Bunder	.....	8,61,520	2,000	5,527
Mosjid Bunder.....	35,148	45,148	1,200	1,200
Mazagon Bunder...	892	480	892	480
Kussara Bunder.....	42,238	42,238	576	576
Tank Bunder.....	2,42,000	2,42,000	.....	Not fixed.
G. I. P. Wharf at Elphinstone Bunder.....	.....	3,90,362	.....	4,311
B. B. and C. I. Railway Wharf...	.....	73,804	.....	500
Total Government & Railway Wharves...	3,44,623	18,43,475	7,518	18,789
Private Wharves.				
Victoria & Colaba Land Company.....	57,466	1,09,364	1,000	2,860
Carnac, Clare, and Elphinstone Bunders.....	1,94,710	11,73,802	7,745	16,170
Mazagon Land Reclamation Company.....	.....	6,41,485	... ..	4,600
Pier Land Company.....	Not known or fixed.			
Jamsetjee Bunder*.....	12,490	12,490	1,568	1,568
Arthur Bunder*.....	23,398	23,398	1,403	1,403
Total Private Wharves.	2,88,064	19,60,539	11,716	26,601

* Space has been entered, the future accommodation not yet having been

12. On the foregoing works being carried to completion the Committee are of opinion that all the wants of the Port of Bombay in respect to wharf accommodation will be fully supplied for many years to come, but they are also of opinion that efficient measures should be adopted for regularly dredging out the Town Custom House Basin, the present Dredging Machine being so nearly useless that the Basin cannot be kept clear for the use of large boats, except at the top of the tide.

13. The Committee are further of opinion that no system of wharf accommodation can be perfect so long as a busy line of Railway worked with level crossings for the public runs between the wharves and the city. The inconvenience thereby caused is incalculable; the traffic from the Musjid, Clare, Carnac, and Elphinstone Bunders being obstructed for long periods daily during the passage of trains. The Committee are, therefore, of opinion, that this matter should receive the earliest possible consideration of Government.

14. In leaving this portion of the subject, the Committee [illegible] mmittee
[illegible] nnot be
[illegible] must be
[illegible] re inac-
[illegible] st of the

Wharfage Fees.

15. The Wharfage Fees at present levied according to different [illegible] different
[illegible] ging to
[illegible] Bunder.
[illegible] es res-

16. The rates levied at the Government wharves are founded [illegible] ounded
[illegible] t, and
[illegible] o size.
[illegible] levied
[illegible] them
[illegible] uch of
[illegible] there-
[illegible] force
[illegible] thers.
[illegible] these

TOWN CUSTOM HOUSE.

Dutiable Goods.

On the Pier.....24 hours } From the time of depositing or
On Import Premises... 7 days } landing.
On Export Premises... 3 days from time of depositing.

Free Goods.

Import & Export Goods 2 days from time of depositing or landing.

ALL OTHER GOVERNMENT BUNDERS.

Dutiable Goods.

Import side..... 7 days from the time of depositing or landing.
Export side..... 3 days from the time of depositing.

Free Goods.

Import and Export
sides..... 2 days from the time of depositing or landing.

17. The above system has been adopted in consequence of the limited space at all the Government wharves, whereby goods are always found crowded, and owners *frequently find it difficult* to remove their consignments when they desire in consequence of the difficulty of getting at them. Under such circumstances it has been considered desirable to allow a fair number of days' grace for the removal of all goods, and the Committee see no reason to object to the arrangement. At Calcutta the same principle of allowing a certain number of days' grace is followed, four days' freedom from wharfage or rent being the time given; and section 189 of the consolidated Customs Act VI. of 1863 would seem, by the manner in which it has been worded, to contemplate such a course being adopted at all Government wharves. The Committee, however, are of opinion, that when ample space and all proper appliances, such as steam cranes, &c., shall have been provided, landing fees should be charged distinct from storage or rent.

18. The Elphinstone Company has adopted annas 4 per candy of 7 cwt. on import as a general basis for their rates, but to meet the peculiarities of various descriptions of merchandize, and the convenience of traders, this basis is not strictly adhered to. Table No. 1 of this Company's rates annexed in Schedule B. is therefore based on the 4 annas per candy rate, and includes a great variety of general merchandize. The charge under this scale covers the right to store the goods for three days on the

wharves, or for seven days on the ground behind. A lower rate (two annas per candy of 7 cwt.) is charged upon export than upon import in the case of the same goods, because goods do not generally remain so long upon the wharves in the latter as in the former case. Table No. 2 shows certain goods upon which landing charges are made according to the tonnage of the vessels in which the goods are imported. These goods are of a bulky character, and generally of small value. The rates have been adopted, in concert with the merchants, to suit the various descriptions of merchandize, and to obviate, as far as possible, the delay and expense of measuring and counting quantities. Table No. 3 includes both cranage charges and wharfage fees. Table No. 4 contains the rent levied for the use of the Company's ground when taken up, irrespective of wharfage.

19. The Secretaries of the Elphinstone Land Company, in their letter to the Commissioner of Customs No. 954, of the 20th January 1865, and which is transcribed below, admit the right of Government to sanction the wharfage fees levied at their Bunders.

With reference to our No. 863, of 25th October 1864, we beg to withdraw our protest against the claim of Government to fix and regulate the scale of fees to pay levy on our wharves.

In our original application for concessions we expressly requested Government to reserve the right of sanctioning our scale of fees with the object of protecting the public against any abuse of the power which the possession of so large a water frontage would give this Company. We freely admit this principle, and our protest was directed not against the right, but the apprehended mode of exercising the right, for it appeared to us that the claim to fix and regulate the fees went beyond mere sanctioning, and implied a degree of active interference with the affairs of the Company to which Government was not entitled, and which the public interests did not seem to require.

20. Schedule C shows the rates levied by the Victoria Land Company. They appear to be based upon principles similar to those of the Elphinstone Land Company. The Victoria Bunder has been declared an authorized landing place for cotton, wool, and seeds only, upon which the rates as below are charged; it therefore rests entirely with merchants to use this Bunder for other goods, as it is only by permission of the Customs House obtained on special application that any such goods can be brought to the Bunder.

Cotton and Wool..... From ½ to 2 annas per Docra and Bale.
Seeds.....½ anna per candy of 5½ cwt.

21. The Victoria Company, in the 2nd and 3rd paragraphs of their letter to the Commissioner of Customs of the 19th October 1864, and transcribed below deny the right of Government to regulate in any detail the wharfage fees levied at their Bunder, and the new Proprietors of the United Victoria and Colaba Land Company will doubtless assert the same privilege.

2. We desire at the same time to draw your attention to the inaccuracy, so far as the Victoria Land and Press Company is concerned, of the assertion contained in the said Government Resolution, "that Government has reserved a right to fix and regulate the wharfage fees to be levied by the proprietors," and to enter our formal protest against such an assumption.

3. The power reserved by Government in reference to the Victoria Land and Press Company is that of withholding its sanction, should it think proper, to the scale of fees to be finally adopted by the proprietors; and we request that this point be made clear to the members of the Committee before entering on the discussion of the subject.

22. The Committee are of opinion that the power of sanctioning from time to time, as may be necessary, a maximum rate of landing fees to be levied by the owners of private Bunders should undoubtedly be vested in the hands of Government, and as the consolidated Customs Act VI. of 1863 is silent on the subject, Section 189, relating apparently to Government wharves only, the Committee have to recommend that early Legislative action be taken in the matter, which should be made to meet the requirements of both existing and future wharves of this description.

23. It is almost impossible to institute a comparison between the wharfage rates levied in Bombay and those levied by the various Dock Companies and Wharfingers in England. In London the rates include not only wharfage, but also the charges for landing, weighing, measuring, housing, and piling upon the quay, whereas in Bombay the charges are merely for the use of wharves for landing and storing for a certain number of days, and do not include labour, which is borne by the owners of goods. The nearest case for comparison is that of the dues levied by the Liverpool Dock Trustees for the support and maintenance of the Docks and Harbour, but these again do not give the parties paying them a right to store their goods, for which a separate charge is made. A few articles may, however, be taken at random from the Liverpool Dock Trustees' Table, and compared with the rates levied by Government and by the private wharf

Goods.	Rent levied at the Government Bunders at Bombay.	Landing Fees, &c., Elphinstone Bunder at Bombay.	Landing Fees, &c., Victoria Bunder at Bombay.	* Liverpool Dock Trustees on Import.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	£. s. d.
Cotton Wool, large Bale	0 6 0 Per Bale		0 1 0 Per Bale	0 0 4 to 0 0 5 Per Bale.
Seeds	0 1 6 Cwt.		0 1 6 5¼ Cwt	0 0 2¼ Quarter.
Wool	0 6 0 Bale		0 2 0 Bale	0 1 6 Ton.
Coir Yarn	0 1 6 Cwt.		0 5 0 7 Cwt	0 1 6 Ton.
Timber	....		3 0 0 Ton	0 1 6 Ton.
Coal	....		2 0 0 Boat	0 0 3 Ton.
Gunnies	....		0 2 0 Bale	.....
Chunam	....		1 8 0 Candy	0 0 1¼ Ton.
Bricks and Tiles	0 9 0 1000		2 0 0 Candy of Vessel	0 0 9 Per 1,200.
Machinery	0 1 6 Cwt. if n 4 An per T		3 0 0 Ton	0 1 6 Ton.
Piece Goods	0 2 0 to 0 4 0 Per Case or Bale	0 2 0 Bale or Case	0 2 0 Case or Package	0 0 9 Package.
Hides	0 8 0 Cwt	0 4 0 Candy of 7 cwt	....	0 0 2¼ Cwt.
Grain	0 1 0 Cwt	0 2 0 Candy of 9 1n. Mds	0 1 6 Candy of 5¼ Cwt	0 0 2¼ Quarter.
Metals	0 1 6 Cwt. to 0 1 6 Cwt	1 0 0 Ton, including 0 5 0 Cranage	0 5 0 Ton by hand 3 0 0 Ton by Crane	0 1 6 Ton. to 0 0 9 Ton.
Soft Sugar	0 1 6 Cwt	0 3 0 Candy of 7 Cwt	0 3 0 Candy of 7 Cwt	0 1 6 Ton.
Coffee	0 1 6 Cwt	0 4 0 Ditto	0 3 0 Ditto ditto	0 1 6 Ton.
Wines	0 3 0 Barrel	0 2 0 Barrel	....	0 1 8¼ Ton, viz., 4 Hogsheads.
	0 6 0 Hogshead cheon.	0 4 0 Hogshead cheon.	....	0 0 3 Cask.
	0 9 0 Butt, Pipe, or Pun-	0 6 0 Butt, Pipe, or Pun-	....	0 0 3¾ Hogshead.
	0 1 6 Three dozen Case	0 1 0 Three dozen Case	....	0 0 3 Puncheon.
	0 3 0 Four to six doz. Case.	0 2 0 Four to six doz. Case.	.... Not landed at this Bun	0 0 ¾ Three dozen Case.
				0 0 4½ Hogshead.

24. The Committee are of opinion that, under existing circumstances, the Elphinstone Land and Press Company's scale of rates is not unreasonable, and recommend that it be adopted for the present as the maximum to be charged at private wharves, leaving it optional with wharf owners to levy such rates within the said limit as they may desire, Government reserving the right to alter the maximum from time to time as may be just and necessary.

25. Finally, the Committee respectfully urge that Government should continue to hold all such portions of the foreshore of the harbour of Bombay as may still be in their own possession, thereby providing the only effective check against possible combinations and exactions on the part of private wharf owners, and that no time be lost in commencing and prosecuting the various Government works mentioned in this report, so as to render them available for the purposes of trade at the earliest possible date.

G. INVERARITY, *President.*
JOHN FLEMING,
A. C. BRICE,
A. STEWART,
J. B. LANE, } *Members.*

APPENDIX A.

NOTIFICATION.

Notice is hereby given, under the provisions of Section 189 of Act VI. of 1863 (the consolidated Customs Act), that from and after the 1st November 1865 the following periods will be allowed for removing goods free of Wharfage Fees from the Government Wharves, Piers or Sheds, or other authorized landing places of the Custom Houses within the Town and Island of Bombay :—

TOWN CUSTOM HOUSE.

Dutiable Goods.

On the Pier..... 24 hours
Import side..... 7 days } From the time of depositing or landing.
Export side..... 3 days from the time of depositing.

Free Goods.

Import and Export sides..... 2 days from the time of depositing or landing.

ALL OTHER GOVERNMENT BUNDERS.

Dutiable Goods.

Import side..... 7 days from the time of depositing or landing.
Export side..... 3 days from the time of depositing.

Free Goods.

Import and Export sides..... 2 days from the time of depositing or landing.

On all goods not cleared and removed beyond the Custom House premises within the periods above specified, wharfage fees or warehouse rent will be charged according to the rates specified below.

The day of landing or depositing and that of the removal will be reckoned as one day Sundays and holidays will be allowed in addition to the other rent-free periods, and when delay is caused by the inability of the Custom House Officers to examine and pass goods after application made in due course for that purpose, the days of such delay will not be reckoned in any term

The scale specified below is generally in excess of that hitherto in operation : it is now raised not with any view of Government deriving an increased revenue from wharfage or warehouse rents, but solely that parties landing or shipping goods may be induced to do so with despatch, and that goods may not be left for long periods within the Custom House premises, to the great obstruction of business, merely because the owners may find it cheaper to deposit them there than elsewhere.

Enumeration of Goods.	Wharfage Fees or Warehouse Rent per Week.			
	Rs.	A.	P.	*Per*
Alkaline	0	1	6	Cwt.
Almonds	0	1	6	„
Aloes	0	1	6	„
Allum	0	2	0	„
Amber	0	1	6	Box
Ambergris	0	1	6	„
Annatto	0	1	6	Cwt.
Anniseed	0	1	6	„
Antimony	0	1	6	„
Arrow Root	0	3	0	Case.
Arsenic	0	6	0	Case or Package.
Assafœtida, or Hingra	0	6	0	Cwt.
Acids of all kinds	0	6	0	Case.
Ackroot	0	3	0	Package.
Ambosee, dried Mangoes	0	1	6	Cwt.
Amrlsara, Crystalized Sulphur ..	0	1	6	„
Atary	0	1	6	„
Ajwan	0	1	6	„
Anniseed star	0	3	0	Box.
Agates, or Amethysts	0	4	0	„
Bags, Gunny, empty	0	6	0	Hundred
Bangles	0	3	0	Case.
Bark, [illegible]	0	1	6	Cwt.
Barrilla	0	1	6	„
B'dellium	0	1	6	„
Beads	0	3	0	Case or Pack
Beef and Pork	0	4	6	Tierces
Do. do.	0	3	0	Barrel or
Beer in Barrel	0	3	0	Each
Do. in Hogsheads	0	6	0	„
Do. in Butt, Pipe or Puncheon	0	9	0	„
Do. in Bottles packed in three dozen Cases or Casks	0	1	6	Cask or
Do. in Bottles packed in 1 dozen Casks to 6 dozen Casks or Cases	0	3	0	„
Beetlenuts	0	1	6	Cwt
Bottles, empty	0	8	0	Crate
Bread	0	1	6	Bag
Bricks and Tiles	0	9	0	Thousand.
Brimstone	0	1	6	Cwt.
Bysabole	0	1	6	„
Biche de Mer, Sea Slug	0	1	6	„
Brooms	0	1	0	Dozen.
Brass Leaf	0	1	6	Case.

Enumeration of Goods.	Wharfage Fees or Warehouse Rent per Week.			
	Rs.	A.	P.	*Per*
ss Old..	0	1	6	Cwt.
o. Ware..	0	1	6	,,
er	0	2	0	,,
gage, Chest or Trunk	0	2	0	Each.
l Hair (*vide* Wool)	..	..		
phor..	0	3	0	Case.
dles..	0	1	0	Box.
es, common Rattans	0	1	6	Cwt.
damoms..	0	1	6	,,
rriage, four-wheeled..	4	0	0	Each.
Do. two-wheeled..	2	0	0	,,
sk, Pipe or Puncheon, empty. ..	0	9	0	,,
Do. Hogsheads..	0	6	0	,,
sia, Lignea, and Buds	0	1	6	Cwt.
or Seed	0	1	6	,,
ent..	0	3	0	Barrel.
lies and Chilly Pepper	0	1	6	Cwt.
a Roots..	0	1	6	,,
t Ware..	0	6	0	Large Case.
do.	0	3	0	Small Case.
Ware, Roll, large..	0	6	0	Dozen.
do: do: small...	0	4	0	,,
lroose (Copal)	0	1	6	Cwt.
bar	0	1	6	,,
mon...	0	1	6	,,
.. ..	0	2	0	,,
ieal..	0	2	0	,,
is Indicus	0	1	6	,,
.. ..	0	1	6	,,
oose, Yarn, and Coir Rope of all				
.. ..	0	1	6	,,
.. ..	0	2	0	,,
bo Root	0	1	6	,,
pper, Sheets, Sheathing, Brazier ..	0	2	0	,,
Do. Rod Bolts, Nails, and Bars &c...	0	1	6	,,
Do. Ware..	0	1	6	,,
Do. Old..	0	1	6	,,
Do. Ingots, Tiles, Cakes and Bricks..	0	1	0	,,
pra...	0	4	6	Robin.
ral.	0	3	0	Package.
dage	0	1	6	Cwt.
ton	0	6	0	Bale.
. .. .	0	3	0	Docra.

Enumeration of Goods.	Wharfage Fees or Warehouse Rent per Week.			
	Rs.	A.	P.	*Per*
Cotton Piece Goods (*Vide* Piece Goods)				
Cowries, large...	0	1	6	Cwt.
Do. small in packages	0	1	6	,,
Cubebs	0	1	6	,,
Cummin Seeds	0	1	6	,,
Cuppoor Catcherry	0	3	0	Package.
Copperas	0	2	0	Cwt.
Cheroots or Cigars	0	3	0	Ten Thousand
Cork	0	2	0	Case.
Do.	0	4	0	Package.
Cheese in Tins or Bladders	0	3	0	Case.
Do. in Basket of 1 Cwt.	0	1	6	Cwt.
Do. of all sorts (loose)	0	4	0	Dozen.
Couch	1	0	0	Each.
Chair	0	1	6	,,
Dammer..	0	4	0	Cwt.
Date...	0	3	0	,,
Dragon's Blood	0	1	6	,,
Drugs, including Attary of all sorts... ..	0	1	6	,,
Dapper, empty	0	1	6	Each.
Earthenware, large	0	8	0	Crate
Do. small	0	4	0	,,
Ebony..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Fireworks, China	0	6	0	1 Pound Ch
Ditto do.	0	3	0	½ Pound Ch
Fishmaw	0	8	0	Cwt.
Flax..	0	1	6	,,
Flour..	0	3	0	Barrel
Frankincense	0	1	6	Cwt.
Figs..	0	1	6	,,
Flints...	0	3	0	Cask
Fat...	0	4	0	Barrel
Fans	0	3	0	Case.
Feathers	0	3	0	,,
Gallingall..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Gall Nuts..	0	1	6	,,
Gamboge	0	1	6	,,
Gentian Root	0	1	6	,,
Ghee...	0	2	0	,,
Ginger	0	1	6	,,
Gold Leaf..	1	0	0	Box.
Ginsing Root	0	1	6	Cwt.
Glass..	0	8	0	Crate or Cask
Glass Panes for Window Frames ..	0	1	6	Box.

Enumeration of Goods	Wharfage Fees or Warehouse Rent per Week.			
	Rs.	A.	P.	*Per*
um Ammoniac..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Do. Arabic...	0	1	6	,,
Do. Benjamin	0	1	6	,,
Do. Refuse or Cunee	0	1	6	,,
Do. Bamboo Vanslochun	0	1	6	,,
rain of all sorts...	0	1	6	,,
ambier..	0	1	6	,,
Grease	0	2	0	,,
Garlic...	0	1	6	,,
Goglets	0	0	3	Each.
Glue	0	1	6	Cwt.
Gowzaban...	0	1	6	,,
Gums..	0	2	0	Case.
Ham, loose	0	4	6	Dozen.
Iccerabole	0	1	6	Cwt.
Jemp..	0	1	6	,,
Hides or Skins, Goat, loose, Untanned	0	8	0	Hundred.
Do. Buffalo, Cow, Ox, do.	0	9	0	Bale.
Do. do. Tanned...	0	8	0	,,
Horns	0	1	6	Cwt.
Hingra	0	6	0	,,
Hardware (large)..	0	6	0	Casks.
Do. (small)..	0	4	0	,,
Hats...	0	3	0	Case.
Herrings, Barrel...	0	2	0	Barrel.
Indigo or Persian Blue..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Ivory, Elephant and Sea Horse Teeth..	0	3	0	,,
Iron, Bar, Sheets, Hoops, and Nail Rod.	0	1	6	,,
Iron, Pig	0	1	0	,,
Iron works..	0	1	6	,,
Iron, Nail, Rivets, &c.	0	1	6	,,
Iron Cable or Chain	0	1	6	,,
Jars, large size	0	2	0	Each.
Do middle do.	0	1	6	,,
Jars, small do	0	0	6	,,
Jagree..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Junk...	0	1	6	,,
Jeher Catchree	0	1	6	,,
Jewellery..	1	0	0	Box or Case.
Khismiss..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Khoosumba	0	1	6	,,
Lac of all sorts	0	1	6	,,
Lacquered Ware....	0	3	0	Package.
Lead Sheets	0	1	6	Cwt.

Enumeration of Goods.	Wharfage Fees or Warehouse Rent per Week.			
	Rs.	A.	P.	*Per*
Lead Pig	0	1	0	Cwt.
Do. Shot, in Barrel	0	1	6	,,
Do. in bags of 28 lbs	0	1	0	Bag.
Do. Roll Sheet	0	1	6	Cwt.
Do Black...	0	1	6	,,
Do. Red..	0	2	0	,,
Do. White..	0	2	0	,,
Liquorice Root	0	1	6	,,
Lamp Black...	0	1	6	,,
Lard..	0	2	0	,,
Lignum Vitæ	0	1	6	,,
Lametta..	0	3	0	Case.
Linseed...	0	1	6	Cwt.
Machinery (if weight is given).. ..	0	1	6	,,
Machinery in case or package when weight is not given from Annas 4 to Rs. 4..	0 4	4 0	0 0	Case or Package.
Mace	0	1	6	Cwt.
Mats, China..	0	6	0	Bundle.
Mats, country, or Persian	0	3	0	Hundred.
Metal, Wrought..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Do. Unwrought.	0	1	0	,,
Mother-of-Pearl Shells..	0	1	6	,,
Munjeet..	0	1	6	,,
Myrobolans	0	1	6	,,
Molasses	0	1	6	,,
Myrrh	0	1	6	,,
Matches in wood and paper Box ..	0	12	0	Case.
Do. do. do. do. small..	0	6	0	,,
Do. in Tin Boxes (Wooper Matches .	0	6	0	,,
Musk..	0	3	0	Cwt.
Mineral, Brown	0	1	6	,,
Nutmegs	0	1	6	,,
Nux Vomica (Joher Catchree)	0	1	6	,,
Nails in Kegs or Cask	0	1	6	,,
Oil, Castor, Cocoanut, Jingelly, and other sorts	0	1	6	,,
Oil, Cassia	0	3	0	Chest.
Oil, Naptha..	0	2	0	Carboy.
Oilman's Stores	0	1	6	Small Box.
Do.	0	3	0	Cask or Case.
Opium, Whole Chest	0	4	0	Chest.
Do. Half do..	0	2	0	,,
Orchilla Weed	0	1	6	Cwt.

Enumeration of Goods.	Wharfage Fees or Warehouse Rent per Week.			
	Rs.	A.	P.	*Per*
Oakum	0	1	6	Cwt.
Ochre..	0	1	6	,,
Orsidue	0	3	0	Case.
Omlah	0	1	6	Cwt.
Piece Goods, per case	0	3	0	Case.
Do. do. per bale, small size ..	0	2	0	Each.
Do. do. do. double size... ...	0	4	0	,,
Do. do. do. country, large ..	0	4	0	,,
Paint...	0	2	0	Cwt.
Paper...	0	3	0	Case.
Papud Khar	0	1	6	Cwt.
Patch Leaves	0	1	6	,,
Pearl, False	0	3	0	Case.
Pepper..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Pitch..	0	4	0	Barrel.
Plank	0	0	9	Each.
Preserves, China...	0	1	6	Case.
Pistachio Nuts	0	1	6	Cwt.
Pruns...	0	1	6	,,
Paddy in Bags	0	[illegible]	0	Bag.
Pianoforte...	1	[illegible]	0	Each.
Pearl Barley	0	1	6	Cwt.
Quicksilver	0	1	6	Bottle.
Quinine..	0	1	6	Case.
Raisins..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Rosin..	0	4	0	Barrel.
Rattan..	0	1	6	,,
Red Lead..	0	2	0	Cwt.
Rhubarb	0	1	6	Case.
Rose Flowers	0	1	6	Cwt.
Rosewater in Carboy	0	1	6	Each.
Do. in Bottles, packed in case..	0	3	0	Case.
Rice..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Do. Bowls	0	6	0	Cask.
Safflower..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Saffron..	0	1	6	,,
Sago...	0	1	6	,,
Salt, coarse, in bags and loose.. ..	0	1	6	,,
Salt in Cask	0	4	0	Each.
Do. Table, in Jars or Baskets ..	0	1	6	,,
Saltpetre	0	1	6	Cwt.
Silk Raw, China or Bengal	0	3	0	Bale or Case.
Silk Piece Goods..	0	3	0	,,
Soap...	0	1	6	Cwt.

Enumeration of Goods.	Wharfage Fees or Warehouse Rent per Week.			
	Rs.	A.	P.	*Per*
Spirits in Bottles of 1 dozen case ..	0	1	0	Case.
Do. in Wood (*Vide* Beer)	0	1	6	
Staves in Packs, Pipe, Leager, and Hogshead....	0	1	6	Each.
Sugar, Soft	0	1	6	Cwt.
Do. Candy, in large Tub	0	1	0	Each.
Do. do. in half do.	0	0	6	„
Do. do. in quarter do	0	0	4	„
Sandal Wood...	0	1	6	Cwt.
Sapan Wood..	0	1	6	„
Sarsaparilla..	0	3	0	Package.
Silver Ware	0	8	0	Case.
Slush..	0	4	0	Barrel.
Soap Stone "Sunkjimo".	0	1	6	Cwt.
Suet..	0	1	6	„
Sealing Wax..	0	1	6	„
Steel, in packages and bundles ..	0	1	6	„
Seeds of all sorts..	0	1	6	„
Steel in Keg	0	1	6	„
Senna	0	1	6	„
Shawls..	0	3	0	Case.
Shellac..	0	1	6	Cwt.
Sharkfins	0	8	0	„
Samples in Truss or Case	0	2	0	Each.
Do. in Parcel	0	1	0	„
Spelter	0	1	0	Cwt.
Steel, Bar	0	1	6	„
Steel, Bundle	0	1	6	„
Tank, Water, large	2	0	0	Each.
Do. small	1	0	0	„
Tallow..	0	2	0	Cwt.
Tar	0	4	0	Barrel.
Tea	0	4	6	Cwt.
Terra Japonica	0	1	6	„
Tobacco	0	1	6	„

Enumeration of Goods.	Wharfage Fees or Warehouse Rent per Week.			
	Rs.	A.	P.	*Per*
Tortoise Shell	0	1	6	Cwt.
Turmeric	0	1	6	„
Twist..	0	3	0	Bale.
Tin, Block...	0	1	0	Cwt.
Tin, Plate..	0	1	6	Box.
Turpentine	0	4	0	Jar.
Do.	0	2	0	Can.
Tamarind	0	1	6	Cwt.
Vermillion...	0	1	6	Case.
Verdigris	0	1	6	Cwt.
Varnish, in cans...	0	2	0	Can.
Wax, Bees...	0	1	6	Cwt.
Wool..	0	6	0	Bale.
Do.	0	3	0	Docra.
Woollen	0	3	0	Bale or Case.
Wire, Brass, Iron, and Copper. ...	0	1	6	Cwt.
Wines or Spirits, in Pipe, Butt or Puncheon, and Hogsheads (*Vide* Beer.)				
Watches, in a small tin case . ..	0	4	0	Tin Case.
Do. box or cases	1	0	0	Box or Case.
Yellow Metal Sheathings	0	2	6	Cwt.
Zinc Sheathings..	0	1	6	„

N. B.—Articles not enumerated in the above List to be assessed as follows :—

Per Week.

Articles if sold by weight 1½ Anna per cwt.
Do. in Boxes or Cases 1½ Anna to 4 Rs. each.
Do. in Packages do. do. do.

G. INVERARITY,
Commissioner of Customs.

Bombay, Custom House, 5th October 1863.

APPENDIX B.

No. 1.

TABLE *of Landing Charges on Goods Imported and Exported to and from the Carnac, Clare, and Elphinstone Bunders, from the 1st January* 1864.

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs.	A.	P.	Remarks.
	A.					
1	Acid (Nitric Aquafortis)	Per case.....	0	2	0	
		„ carboy ...	0	1	0	
2	Ackroot (Walnuts) ..					
3	Akulkurra or Pellitory					
4	Alkali, country (Sajeekhar)					
5	Almonds with Shell...	„ candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
6	Aloes, Black					
7	Aloe Wood					
8	Alum, China, Cutch, and Shed					
9	Ambs Huldee.. ..					
10	Amboosee Dried Mangoes	ditto ...	0	2	0	
11	Amulsars (Crystallised Sulphur) ..	ditto ...	0	4	0	
12	Aniseed, Star					
13	Arsenic of all colours.					
14	Arrowroot	ditto ...	0	3	0	
15	Asafœtida (Hing) ..	ditto ...	0	4	0	
16	Atary, Persian.. ..					
17	Asmood, common ..	Per candy of 4 cwt	0	1	6	
	B.					
18	Bangles	Per package ..	0	1	0	
		„ case ..	0	2	0	
		„ cart ..	0	3	6	
19	B'delium..	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
20	Beads...	„ case or package	0	2	0	
21	Benjamin	„ candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
22	Betelnut..	ditto ..	0	3	0	
23	Batty..	„ 25 furras ..	0	3	0	

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs.	A.	P.	Remarks.
24	Bardans..	Per bundle or package.. ..	0	1	0	
25	Bhoojgund	Per candy of 7				
26	Borax...	cwt ..	0	4	0	
27	Bottles, empty ...	„ cart ..	0	3	6	
		„ crate ..	0	2	0	
28	Bones	„ cart ..	0	3	6	
		„ candy of 6 cwt ..	0	3	0	
29	Bran	Per candy of 8 furras. ..	0	1	0	
30	Brassware	„ cart if no weight. ..	0	4	0	
31	Brimstone	„ candy of 7 cwt.	0	4	0	
32	Brooms	„ cart ..	0	4	0	
33	Bhang...	„ candy of 7 cwt	0	3	0	
34	Buzurbutto Nuts ...	„ package ..	0	2	0	
35	Baggage	„ cart ...	0	2	0	
	C.					
36	Cable, Coir, tarred....	Per candy of 7 cwt.	0	4	0	
37	Cardamoms.. ..	„ do. of 4 cwt.	0	4	0	
38	Cajoo Kernels.. ..	Per candy of 7 cwt.	0	3	0	
39	Camphor...	„ do. of 5½ cwt	0	4	0	
40	Casks, empty.. ...	Per each, large.	0	2	0	
		„ do. small.	0	1	0	
41	Canes or Rattans.....	„ candy of 7 ct	0	3	0	
		„ package.	0	1	6	
		„ cart.	0	3	6	
42	Chillies, dried.. ..	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	3	0	
43	Cinnamon... ..	Per candy of 5½				
44	Cloves...	cwt.	0	4	0	
45	Cocoanuts... ..	Per thousand (1,000)	0	2	6	
46	Cocum..	Per candy of 7				
47	Coffee...	cwt.	0	3	0	
48	Coir Rope or Yarn...	„ candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
		„ cart... ..	0	3	6	
49	Chalk...	Per candy of 7 cwt.	0	2	0	
50	Colombo Root.. ..	ditto. ..	0	4	0	
51	Copperas..	ditto. ..	0	3	0	
52	Cordage, Hemp, Europe..	„ one cwt ..	0	0	6	

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs.	A.	P.	Remarks.
53	Cheroots...	Per case or package ...	0	2	0	
54	Churns..					
55	Cotton. Bhownuggur, Dhollera, Surat, Sindee, and Deyra Ghazee Khan..	„ bale... ...	0	1	0	To be removed within three days from the time of landing and depositing.
	Ditto. do.	Per docra. ..	0	0	6	
	Sindee, Deyra Ismael and Ghazee Khan ..	Per bale. ..	0	5	0	For the season from the 1st of November to 31st of May.
	Ditto do	Per docra.. ..	0	3	0	
	Pressed Bales ..	To export.. ..	0	1	0	To be removed within 3 days from the time of depositing.
56	Cotton Piece Goods..	Per bale or case.	0	2	0	Import.
57	Cotton Tape, Rope, or Thread.. ..	„ Ditto. ..	0	1	0	Export.
58	Copper Pots.. ..	„ candy of 7 cwt.	0	4	0	
59	Crimbers.. ..	„ Ditto. ..	0	4	0	
60	Cowries..	„ Ditto. ..	0	3	0	
61	Cumin Seed.. ..	„ candy of 5½ cwt.	0	4	0	
62	Cassamba.. ..	„ candy of 7 cwt.	0	3	0	
63	Canvas..	„ bale.. ..	0	2	0	
64	Canth..	„ candy of 7 cwt.	0	3	0	
65	Cuppas..	Per bale or package ..	0	1	0	
		„ cart.. ..	0	3	6	
	D.					
66	Dammer..	Per candy of 7 cwt.. ..	0	3	0	
67	Dates, dry or wet.. ..					
68	Duppers, empty.. ..	Per cart.. ..	0	3	6	
	E.					
69	Earthenware.. ..	Per crate.. ..	0	3	0	
70	Elephants' Teeth....	Per package...	0	2	0	
		„ one cwt ..	0	0	6	

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs.	A.	P.	Remarks.
	F.					
71	Fat (Tallow).. ..	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
		,, cart.... ..	0	3	6	
72	Figs...	Per candy of 7 cwt.	0	4	0	
73	Fans..	,, package ..	0	2	0	
74	Fireworks.. ..	Per small case..	0	1	0	
		,, large case..	0	2	0	
75	Fish.. Maws.. ..	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
	Fish.. Dry.. ..	Per candy ..	0	3	0	
		,, package ..	0	2	0	
		,, bundle ..	0	1	0	
76	Fruit.. Dry.. ..	,, package of				
	Fruit.. All sorts. ..	Cabool ..	0	6	0	
	G.					
77	Gallanuts, country...	Per candy of 5½ cwt	0	1	6	
		,, do. of 8 furras	0	2	0	
78	Garlic...	,, do. of 7 cwt..	0	3	0	
79	Genda Sing.. ..	,, package ..	0	2	0	
80	Ghee..	,, candy of 7				
81	Ginger, dry.. ..	cwt.. ..	0	3	0	
82	Goats..	Per hundred (100)	1	8	0	
83	Gool Pista.. ..	,, candy of 7 cwt.	0	4	0	
84	Goolall..	Ditto. ..	0	3	0	
85	Googul..	Ditto. ..	0	4	0	
86	Giree..	,, candy of 5½ cwt	0	4	0	
87	Grease..	,, candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
88	Glue...	Ditto. ..	0	3	0	
89	Grain (all sorts).. ..	Per candy of 8 furras or 9 Indian Mds..	0	2	0	
		For filling up bags on the Wharf, per candy.. ..	0	2	0	
		Shed rent and measuring per candy....	0	6	0	
90	Grapes..	Per package... ..	0	6	0	

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs.	A.	P.	Remarks.
91	Gum	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
92	Gunny Bales.. ..	Per bale ..	0	2	0	Import.
		„ bundle ..	0	1	0	Import.
		„ bale. ..	0	1	0	Export.
		„ bundle ..	0	0	6	Export.
	H					
93	Hardware.. ..	Per small cask.	0	2	0	
		„ large cask..	0	4	0	
94	Hemp..	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
95	Hogsheads.. ...	Per cart. ..	0	3	6	
		„ each . ..	0	2	0	
96	Honey..	Per package ..	0	3	0	
97	Horns (loose) ..	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	3	0	
		„ cart... ..	0	3	6	
		„ package ..	0	1	0	
98	[illegible]	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
99	[illegible]	„ candy of 8 furrahs	0	1	0	
100	[illegible]	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
101	[illegible] ..	Per candy of 7				
102	[illegible]	cwt	0	3	0	
103	[illegible]	ditto. ..	0	3	0	Import.
			0	2	0	Export.
	K					
104	Khalmiss					
105	Khootwood	Per candy of 7				
106	Kumbera	cwt.. ..	0	4	0	
107	Kurroowood					
108	Kuswel Drugs ..					
109	Kutchoory	Ditto.	0	2	0	

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs. A. P.	Remarks.
	L			
110	Lemon Juice.. ..	Per cask or hogshead.. ..	0 4 0	
111	Leathers	Per cart.. ..	0 3 6	
		„ bundle ..	0 1 0	
112	Liquorice Root ..	Per candy of 7 cwt	0 4 0	
	M			
113	Mace	Per candy of 5½ cwt.. ...	0 4 0	
114	Madder or Munjeet ..	„ do. of 7 cwt.	0 4 0	
115	Mats	Per package.. ..	0 2 0	
	N			
116	Nowsagur	Per candy of 7 cwt	0 4 0	
117	Nutmegs	„ do of 5½ cwt.	0 4 0	
	O			
118	Oil, Jingelly or Cocoanut	Per large cask.	0 4 0	
		„ small do...	0 2 0	
		„ dubra.....	0 1 0	
		„ candy of 7 cwt... ..	0 1 6	
119	Oil, Sandalwood ...	Per small case or package.....	0 4 0	
120	Ooplates	Per candy of 7 cwt.. ...	0 4 0	
121	Ochre			
	P			
122	Paints..	Per each cwt.....	0 0 6	
123	Piece Goods	Per case or package ...	0 2 0	Import.
		Do.	0 1 0	Export.
124	Pista Seed	Per candy of 7 cwt	0 4 0	
125	Pepper	Do.	0 3 0	
126	Papurkhar	Do.	0 3 0	
127	Pitch, American ..	Per 1 cwt. ...	0 0 6	
128	Pomegranates, dry ..	„ package ...	0 6 0	

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs.	A.	P.	Remarks.
129	Pubney Seed ..	Percandy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
130	Pressed Bales of Hay.	„ cart.	0	3	0	
131	Pudwas	„ candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
	R					
132	Raisins	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
133	Ratans	Do.	0	3	0	
		Do.	0	4	0	
134	Rosewater	Per carboy bottle.... ...	0	0	6	
		„ case. ...	0	2	0	
135	Red Lead	„ 1 cwt ..	0	0	6	
136	Ropes	„ candy of 7 cwt. ..	0	4	0	
	S					
137	Sandalwood	Per candy of 7 cwt..... ..	0	3	0	
		„ package ..	0	2	0	
138	Sacroon	„ candy of 7 cwt.. ...	0	4	0	
139	Saffron	„ 1 cwt. ..	0	1	0	
140	Sallum	„ candy of 7 cwt.. ..	0	4	0	
		„ package ..	0	3	0	
141	Salamoniac	„ candy of 7 cwt.. ..	0	4	0	
142	Salt Fish	„ candy. ..	0	3	0	
		„ package....	0	2	0	
		„ bundle, ..	0	1	0	
143	Sawjeera	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
144	Shoes	„ case or package	0	3	0	
145	Sajeekhar	„ candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
146	Sapan Wood	Ditto.	0	3	0	
147	Saltpetre	Per bag.. ..	0	1	0	
148	Shooks	„ cart... ..	0	3	0	
149	Sheep	„ hundred (100).	1	8	0	
150	Shark Fins	„ candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
151	Silk	„ case or bundle	0	4	0	
152	Shawls	„ bale.. ..	0	4	0	
153	Soowa Seed	„ candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs.	A.	P.	Remarks.
154	Soda	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	3	0	
155	Sugar	Ditto.	0	3	0	
156	Sundry Goods ..	Per cart (without weight)... ..	0	4	0	
157	Soap	„ case.. ...	0	1	0	
158	Seeds. Coriander Seed & Cotton Seed..	„ candy of 4 cwt	0	1	6	
	Jingelly Seed & Linseed..	Loose, per candy of 5½ cwt.. ..	0	1	6	
	Mathee and Sursee Seed	Bags do. ..	0	2	0	
	Mustard and Khorasnee Seed ..	Per candy of 8 furras, or 9 Indian maunds..	0	2	0	
	Bhoysing Seed ..	Per candy (for garbling) ...	0	1	6	
	Rape Seed ..	„ candy (for export)	0	1	0	
	T					
159	Tallow	Per candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
		„ cart ..	0	3	6	
160	Tar	Per barrel ...	0	2	0	
161	Tukumbulla	„ candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
162	Turmeric	Ditto ..	0	3	0	
163	Twist or Thread ..	Per bale	0	2	0	
164	Twine	„ candy of 7 cwt	0	4	0	
	V					
165	Vinegar	Per pot	0	0	6	
166	Vegetable	Per cart ...	0	3	6	
		„ body ..	0	6	0	
	U					
167	Umbrellas	Per case or package	0	2	0	

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate.	Remarks.
	W			
	Puttanee ..	Per bale	4 0 0	To be removed within seven days from the time of landing and depositing.
	Scindee ..	Ditto	0 3 0	
	Goadur ..	Ditto	0 2 0	
168	Wool.. Puttanee ..	Ditto	6 0 0	For the season from the 1st of November to 31st of May
	Scindee ..	Ditto	0 5 0	
	Goadur ..	Ditto	0 3 0	
	Pressed bales	To export ...	0 1 0	To be removed within three days from the time of depositing.
169	Wax, Bees'	Per candy of 7 cwt	0 4 0	
170	All Carts laden, importing goods into Town	Per cart	0 0 3	
171	All loads of Baggage and Fruit	Per head ..	0 0 3	From Passenger and Ferry Boats Import and Export.
	By Railway Waggons.			
172	Cotton...	Per dokra	0 0 6	
173	Grain of every description	Per candy of 9 Indian maunds.	0 2 0	
174	Seeds ditto ..	Per candy of 5½ cwt.	0 2 0	

All goods which are not enumerated in this Table will be charged per Candy of 7 Cwt. four (4) Annas for Import.
— Ditto—ditto—Ditto—Two (2) Annas for Export.

AN EXTRA LANDING FEE WILL BE CHARGED

I.—On all goods enumerated in this Table which are not removed from the Bunders within seven days (Sundays and Holidays excepted) from the time of depositing or landing thereon; and

II.—On all goods enumerated in this Table which are not removed from the Bunder roads within three days (Sundays and Holidays excepted) from the time of landing or depositing thereon.

NOTE.—The charges described in Table No. 1, are not levied upon the goods described in Tables Nos. 2, 3, and 4.

(Signed) W. NICOL, & Co.,
Secretaries and Treasurers.

No. 2.

TABLE *of Tonnage Charges on Goods Imported and Exported to and from the Carnac, Clare, and Elphinstone Bunders, from 1st January* 1864.

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs.	A.	P.	Remarks.
	B ..					
1	Ballast Stones. Under 20 tons .. / Above 20 tons ..	Per pudow ..	2	0	0	
		„ candy of vessel	0	1	6	
2	Bamboo Blinds.. ..	„ 100 bundles ..	1	8	0	Import.
			1	0	0	Export.
3	Battens..	„ ton	0	8	0	
4	Bamboos.. ..	Per candy of vessel ..	0	1	6	Import.
5	Bark..	ditto ..	0	1	0	Export.
6	Bhendeewood.. ..	ditto ..	0	1	6	Import.
7	Bricks (Country)... ..					
	C					
8	Charcoal..	Per candy of vessel. ..	0	1	6	Import.
		ditto ..	0	1	0	Export.
9	Chunam..	Do. in packages per candy of 5 cwt	0	2	0	Import.
10	Coal or Coke.. ..	Per pudow up to 16 tons ..	2	0	0	Import per candy of vessel.
		ditto up to 19 tons.. ..	2	4	0	
		ditto up to 22 tons.. ...	2	8	0	
		Above 22 tons, per ton ..	0	2	0	
		Cosating vessel, per ton ..	0	2	0	
		Per cart from town... ..	0	1	0	

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs. A. P.	Remarks.
11	Coal or Coke.. ..	Per pudow up to 16 tons ..	1 8 0	Export per candy of vessel.
		ditto up to 19 tons.. ..	1 10 0	
		ditto up to 22 tons.. ..	1 12 0	
		Above 22 tons, per ton ..	0 1 0	
		Coasting vessel, per ton ..	0 1 6	
	D			
12	Deal Planks.. ...	Per pudow, per candy	0 1 0	
	E			
13	Earthen Pots — By cargo boat..	Per candy of vessel	0 0 6	
	By coasting vessel.. ..	ditto... ..	0 1 6	
	....	Per bumboat ..	0 12 0	
	....	„ manchwa ..	0 8 0	
	....	„ hody	0 4 0	
14	Ebony	„ candy of vessel	0 1 6	
	F			
15	Firewood	Per candy of vessel. ..	0 1 6	
		„ cart... ..	0 2 6	
16	Fruit...	Per candy of vessel ..	0 1 6	
		„ manchwa candies ..	0 1 0	
		„ hody . ..	0 4 0	
		„ cart... ..	0 3 0	
17	Furniture.. ..	Per cart.. ..	0 2 0	
18	Fish..	Per cart ..	0 3 6	
		„ basket or package ..	0 0 6	

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs.	A.	P.	Remarks.
	G					
19	Ginger, Green	Per candy of vessel ..	0	1	6	Import.
20	Green Grass					
21	Goglets					
22	Guano Crust	ditto	0	1	0	Export.
23	Grinding Stones	Per cart ..	0	3	6	
		„ each	0	0	6	
	H					
24	Hay and Straw	Per candy of vessel	0	1	0	
25	Hody	„ each	0	4	0	
	P					
26	Planks, Boards, Scantling, Beams, &c.	Per ton	0	8	0	
27	Ditto.	„ candy of vessel	0	1	0	Export.
28	Potatoes and Vegetables	ditto	0	0	6	From Panwell
	R					
29	Rafters .. .. By raft ..	Per candy of vessel ..	0	1	6	
		„ cart ..	0	3	6	
		„ each corge ...	0	5	0	
	S					
30	Sand	Per boat ..	1	4	0	If deposited on the wharf.
		ditto ..	1	0	0	
		Per muchwa ...	0	12	0	
31	Sleepers	Per cargo-boat, per candy ..	0	1	0	
		„ hundred 100	2	0	0	Coasting vessel.
		„ candy of vessel. ..	0	1	6	If the cargo consists of sleepers.
32	Stones, Laddy and Curd.	Per candy of vessel. ..	0	1	6	
		do. if by crane	0	2	0	
		Per cart ..	0	3	6	

No.	Articles.	Weight, &c.	Rate. Rs. A. P.	Remarks.
	T			
33	Tiles..	Per candy of vessel	0 1 6	
34	Timber T.. ..	Per candy of vessel. ..	0 1 6	
		„ cart... ..	0 3 6	
35	Ditto by raft... ..	Per ton	0 8 0	Tickets are issued for the passing of timber, and are renewable every 8 months only for such timber lying on the Hard off Elphinstone Bunder at that time.
36	Ditto V	„ ton (export)..	0 6 0	
37	Ditto	„ candy of vessel.	0 1 0	Import.
	By Railway Waggons.			
38	Bricks, Tiles, and Ballast Stone.. ..	Per high-sided waggon ..	0 12 0	
39	Charcoal and Coal. ..	Per high-sided waggon ..	0 12 0	
		„ low-sided waggon ..	0 6 0	
40	Rafters, Timber Logs., Sleepers & Firewood.	Per waggon ..	1 0 0	Import.
			0 12 0	Export.

All Goods enumerated in this Table which are not removed from the Bunder within the time specified below, from the time of depositing or landing, will be charged with ground rent at the rates described in table No. 4.

Slope.....24 Hours	Sundays and Holidays excepted.
On the road of wharf.....3 Days	
20 Feet from the road.....7 Days	
30 Feet, or any part of the Bunder.....7 Days	

NOTE.—The charges described in Table No. 2 are not levied upon the Goods described in Tables No. 1 and 3.

(Signed) W. NICOL, & Co.,
Secretaries and Treasurers,

No. 3.

TABLE *of Cranage Charges on Goods Imported and Exported to and from the Carnac, Clare, and Elphinstone Bunders from the 1st January* 1864.

No.	Articles and Animals.	Weight or Numbers.	Rate. Rs.	A.	P.	Remarks.
	C					
1	Calves..	Per each.. ..	0	6	0	Including hoisting charge.
2	ows and Bullocks ..	Ditto... ...	0	12	0	Ditto.
3	Carriage of 4 wheels..	Ditto... ..	1	4	0	Ditto. Two Rs.
4	Ditto of 2 ditto ...	Ditto... ..	0	12	0	Ditto. per ea.
5	Cases of Copper ..	Per ton.. ..	1	0	0	
		„ do.. ..	0	8	0	By hand.—Six pies per cwt.
6	Casks of Fire Clay .	Per ton.. ..	1	0	0	
		„ do.. ..	0	8	0	By hand.—A large case of merchandize is charged 0-4-0 and small packages 1 anna
	H					
7	Horses...	Per each.. ..	0	12	0	Including hoisting charge. Not landed at the Town cranes.
	M					
8	Machinery..	Per ton.. ..	1	0	0	
		„ do.. ..	0	8	0	By hand.—1 anna per cwt. if above 1 Ton and 8 pies per ditto if 1 Ton and under.
		„ do.. ..	1	5	0	By the crane.
9	Metals of every description... ..	Per ton.. ..	1	0	0	
		„ do.. ..	0	5	0	By hand For Export. Six As. per cwt.
		„ do.. ..	0	2	6	

No.	Articles and Animals.	Weight or Numbers.	Rate. Rs. A. P.	Remarks.
	P			
10	Palanquin	Per each	0 8 0	Not landed at the Town cranes.
11	Piano	„ do	0 12 0	From 4 to 2 annas

All Goods not enumerated in this Table will be charged on account of Cranage One Rupee per Ton.

All Goods enumerated in this Table which are not removed from the Bunders within the time of depositing or landing will be charged with Ground Rent at the rates described in Table No. 4.

Slope.....24 Hours.
On the road or Wharf.....3 Days.
20 Feet from the road.....7 Days.
30 Feet or any part of the Bunder....7 Days.
} Sundays & Holidays excepted.

NOTE.—The charges described in Table No. 3, are not levied upon the Goods described in Tables No. 1, and 2.

(Singed) W. NICOL and Co. Secretaries and Treasurers.

No. 4.

TABLE *of Ground Rent at the Carnac, Clare, and Elphinstone Bunders, from 1st January* 1864.

No.	Articles.	Measurement and Days.	Rate. Rs. A. P.	Remarks.
1	Timbers, Deposited.. On the Slope	Per log.. ...	0 8 0	Per day.
		For sawing ...	0 8 0	Per day.
	On the Bunder.	Per log.. ..	0 4 0	Do.
		On the road or wharf, per stick of 500 square feet..	20 0 0	Per month.
		For cutting per ditto on the bunder.. ..	12 0 0	Do.
		If 20 feet from the road per stick of 500 square feet..	10 0 0	Do.
		If 30 ft. do & do.	8 0 0	Do.
2	Rafters, Bamboos, Bamboo Blinds, Planks, Chunam, Laddy and Sand Stones, &c.	On the road or wharf, per stick of 500 square feet..	20 0 0	Per month.
		If 20 feet from the road, do.	10 0 0	Do.
		If 30 feet do do.	0 8 0	Do.

No.	Articles.	Measurement and Days.	Rate. Rs.	A.	P.	Remarks.
3	Firewood, Hay, and Straw..	On the road or wharf, per stick of 500 square feet..	20	0	0	Per month.
		If 30 feet from the road, do..	12	0	0	Do.
4	Coal and Coke.. ..	If 30 feet from the road, per stick of 500 square feet..	10	0	0	Do.
5	Machinery, Metals, Iron Tanks, Cases of Copper, Hogsheads, &c., &c.. ..	On the road or wharf, per stick of 500 square feet..	20	0	0	Do.
		If 20 feet from the road, do.	10	0	0	Do.
		If 30 feet do do.	8	0	0	Do.
6	Cargo Boat, Empty, Lying in the Basin.	Per day	0	4	0	
7	Cargo Boat, Oiling or Repairing.. ..	Per 3 days....	1	0	0	Above 3 days, 4 annas per day.
		Per 2 days.. ...	0	12	0	
		Per month....	7	8	0	
8	Hody, Oiling and Repairing.. ..	Per day..... ..	0	2	0	
		Per month.. ..	1	4	0	
9	Muchwa or Bumboat, Oiling and Repairing..	Per day....,..	0	4	0	
		Per month.. ..	4	0	0	
10	Sundry Goods (Drying)...	Per cart load...	0	8	0	
11	Sail new	Of putemary..	1	4	0	
		„ pudow.. ..	1	0	0	
		„ „ repairing	0	8	0	
		„ muchwa ...	0	8	0	
		„ hody..... ..	0	4	0	
12	Wool, Washing.. ...	Per cart.....	1	0	0	
13	Boats laying loaded in the Basin beyond 2 days, and not discharing..	do	0	8	0	Per d

(Signed) W. NICOL & Co.
Secretaries and Treasurers.

APPENDIX. C.

SCALE *of fees charged at Victoria Bunder.*

Description of Goods.	Rate of Fees. Rs.	A.	P.	Per.	Remarks.
Piece Goods	0	2	0	Case or package..	No fee on export.
Hides..					
Grain..	0	1	6	Candy of 5½ cwt..	Three days allowed free, and if goods are not removed in that time a charge is made at the rate of 6 ans. per square yard per month.
Metals..	0	5	0	Ton by hand.	
Do	3	0	0	Crane.	
Soft Sugar	0	3	0	Candy of 7 cwt.	
Coffee..	0	3	0	Ditto.	
Wines..					
Ale and Beers.... ..					
Earthenware.... ..	0	3	0	Crate.	
Cloves..	0	4	0	Candy of 5½ cwt.	
Drugs..	....			Ditto.	
Carriages	1	4	0	Of 4 wheels.	
Do.	0	12	0	Of 2 wheels.	
Gums..	0	4	0	Candy of 7 cwt.	
Oils..	0	1	6	Ditto.	
Twist	0	2	0	Per bale.	
Cotton Bales..... ..	0	1	0	Bale.	
Do. Dockras large..	0	1	0	Dockra.	
Do. Dockras small...	0	0	8	Do.	
Seeds..	0	1	6	5½ cwt.	
Wool..	0	2	0	Bale.	
Coir Rope & Coir Yarn..	0	5	0	Candy of 7 cwt.	
Timber..	3	0	0	Ton.	
Coal (Import)	2	0	0	Boat.	
Do (Export)..... ..	1	8	0	Boat.	
Gunny bags	0	2	0	Bale.	
Chunam	1	8	0	Candy.	
Bricks..	2	0	0	Candy of Vessel.	
Slates..	2	0	0	Ditto.	
Tiles...	2	0	0	Ditto.	
Machinery	3	0	0	Ton.	
Sand..	2	0	0	Boat.	
Iron Hoops	0	5	0	Ton.	
Military Stores.. ..	0	7	0	Cart.	

(Singed) G. INVERARITY,
President Wharf Committee.

RESOLUTION.—The Committee should be requested to accept the thanks of Government for their valuable report.

2. The Report should be printed and published with this Resolution on it, and with a small sketch map of the Island showing the present and proposed wharves as described by the Report.

3. Copies should be supplied to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, the Government of India, the Admiral Commanding Her Majesty's Fleet, to all Departments at the Presidency, to the Press and Railway Companies, to the Harbour Board, Chamber of Commerce, and to the Members of this Committee.

4. A memorandum should be called for from the Public Works Department and Railway Department of all that has been or is being done on the subject of providing more and better wharf accommodation. This should be printed with the report. The memorandum should follow the order of the Committee's remarks, and should note the present state of the negotiations with Railway Companies for over-bridges.

5. Immediate steps should be taken to have all the great improvements in hand, and the Modee Bay, and Tank Bunder, and Wellington Pier works, completed by a competent English Contractor. For this purpose the Secretary of State should be separately addressed in the Public Works Department with a request that he will publish the specifications, invite Tenders, and empower this Government to deal with the Contractor. The enormous value of the property to be created, and its vast importance to the Trade of the Port should be pointed out.

Ordered that copies of the above be forwarded to—

The COMMISSIONER of CUSTOMS, SALT, and OPIUM,
The PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT of the SECRETARIAT,
The RAILWAY DEPARTMENT of the SECRETARIAT.

(Signed) F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX J.

UNIFORM SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES FOR INDIA.

No. 2241 OF 1864.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to transmit herewith copy of my letter of this date, to the Commissioner of Customs, and Lieutenant Colonel De Lisle, and to request that you will be so good as to move the Chamber of Commerce to nominate a gentleman of that body to take part in the deliberations for which a Committee has been convened.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) E. W. RAVENSCROFT,
Officiating Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 24th December 1864.

No. 2240 OF 1864.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To G. INVERARITY, ESQ.,
Commissioner of Customs, Salt, and Opium.
and
Lieutenant Colonel DELISLE,
Acting Superintending Engineer Presidency Division.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to transmit the accompanying copy of an Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Honorable the Governor

General of India in Council, in the Home Department, under date the 20th June last, and to request that you will be so good as to form yourselves into a Committee, with a gentleman to be selected by the Chamber of Commerce, to deliberate on the best mode of attaining a uniform system of weights and measures for India, and to lay before Government, at your earliest convenience, a practical scheme for adoption.

2. A Summary of the correspondence on the records of Government on the subject is also forwarded for your information, and any record which you may require, will be sent to you.

3. A copy of this letter will be sent to the Chamber of Commerce, and that body will be invited to select a gentleman to be associated with you on the Committee.—I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) E. W. RAVENSCROFT,
Officiating Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 24th December 1864.

No. 3836.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, in the Home Department, under date the 20th June 1864.

"Read the following papers on the question of a uniform system of Weights and Measures for British India:—

Letters from the Government of Fort St. George, No. 834, dated 13th May, and No. 2005, dated 7th November 1863, with enclosures.

Letters from the Secretary to the Calcutta Trades Association, dated 10th July and 17th December 1863.

Letter to the Secretary to the Calcutta Trades Association, No. 8107, dated 30th December 1863.

RESOLUTION.—The Madras Government, in submitting for the consideration of the Government of India "the great importance of steps being taken for the reform of the various sys-

tems of Weights and Measures in use in British India," suggests the appointment of a Committee consisting of a properly qualified person from each Presidency to consider and report on the scheme, which, as least disturbing the present scales and nomenclature, and bearing a simple relation with the system observed in England, may seem most worthy of adoption for all India.

2. Similarly the Members of the Calcutta Trades Association request the appointment of a mixed Commission "to make full investigation into the system of Weights and Measures now prevailing in India, and to adjust the same to one Imperial standard." And they further suggest that the standard thus obtained should be made obligatory by Law "in every district and province in the Empire."

3. There can be no doubt, the Governor General in Council observes, that a uniform system of Weights and Measures for all India would be of great public advantage. It is equally obvious, however, that the difficulties in the way of attaining so useful an object are considerable. There is much to be done before a practicable scheme for general adoption can be discovered, and when discovered, it will, His Excellency in Council anticipates, be better introduced by indirect means than by direct penalties of Law.

4. The mode of dealing with the question which most recommends itself to His Excellency in Council is to have a separate Committee of well selected persons for each Presidency and Province. Each Committee should consist of 3 or 5 Members—for preference 3, say a Civil Servant, a Merchant, and an Engineer Officer—who should meet together in the chief City of the Presidency or Province, and deliberate on the subject, reporting the result of their labors to the Local Government or Administration; and the Report should be forwarded with any remarks which the local Authorities may deem necessary for the further consideration of the Government of India. Such Committees, His Excellency in Council believes, would, for the present at any rate, be more useful and far less expensive than a Central Committee for all India.

ORDERED, that a copy of this Resolution, together with a selection of former papers on the subject from the Home Office Records, be forwarded to the Government of Fort St. George, Bombay, Bengal, and the North-Western Provinces, for infor-

mation and guidance, and to the Foreign Department for communication to the Government of the Punjab and the minor Administrations.

Ordered also, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Calcutta Trades Association for information.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) ARTHUR HOWELL,

Officiating Under Secretary to Government of India.

No. 5 OF 1865.

To E. W. RAVENSCROFT, Esq.,

Officiating Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2241 of 1864, dated 24th ultimo, handing, together with other enclosures, copy of your letter of same date to the Commissioner of Customs and Lieutenant Colonel De Lisle, instructing them to form themselves, with a gentleman to be selected by the Chamber of Commerce, into a Committee to deliberate on the best mode of attaining an uniform system of weights and measures for India in connexion with the Committees appointed at the other presidencies.

In reply I have the honour to inform you, that Andrew Grant, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. Campbell, Mitchell & Co., has been appointed as the nominee of the Chamber to be associated with the gentlemen abovementioned in their deliberations on the important subject for which the Committee has been formed.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 17th January 1865.

No. 2008 of 1865.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

From H. BIRDWOOD, Esq.,
Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

To A. HOWELL, Esq.,
Under Secretary to the Government of India, Calcutta.

SIR,—I am directed to inform you, in reply to your letter No. 3836, dated 20th June 1864, that on its receipt His Excellency the Governor in Council appointed a Committee, composed of Mr. A. F. Bellasis, Commissioner of Customs, Colonel DeLisle, R. E., and Mr. Andrew Grant, one of the leading members of the Mercantile community of Bombay, to consider the question of the possibility and the best method of introducing a uniform system of Weights and Measures into this country. After a careful enquiry, the Committee submitted a Report, which, together with the Minutes of the several Members, I am directed to append.

2. It will be seen that the Committee pronounce in favour (1) of a decimal system of multiples and submultiples on the basis (2) of the English pound and gallon, which latter unit they would apply to all measures of capacity, whether for liquids or dry goods. For linear measure the Committee recommend the adoption of the English inch, foot, yard, and mile; and for the measurement of area the English acre decimally divided.

3. The Committee do not enter upon any discussion of the theoretical advantages and disadvantages of the decimal system under different circumstances, or of the practical difficulties that would attend its introduction (and especially perhaps its partial introduction) into India. Nor do they attempt to establish any simple integral relation between one class of measures and the others. These appear to His Excellency the Governor in Council to be somewhat serious defects in the scheme they propose, while the relation also of any system which it is intended to enforce by authority to the present or proposed unit of value and its divisions affords another subject for the most careful consideration.

4. On a review of the whole subject in the light of previous investigations by many able Officers as well as of the present report, it appears to His Excellency in Council that the points which we should seek to attain in any systematic readjustment of the Weights and Measures of India may be classed under the heads of (1) Definiteness, (2) Convenience, including especially Facility of Calculation, and (3) Assimilation or adaptation to existing systems.

5. Nothing would promote the first object more certainly or more immediately than the adoption of some fixed unit of linear measure whence might be deduced fixed units of cubical capacity of weight and of value.

6. Whether the English units under these several heads should be adopted is a question that may be discussed from many distinct points of view. The French system based on the ascertained dimensions of an arc of the meridian has been extensively adopted, and its introduction into England has been advocated by men of great scientific reputation. But serious practical difficulties lie in the way—difficulties so serious that there is little prospect of any radical change in the present generation. At the same time it seems certain that no Indian unit can be adopted which shall either correspond precisely (and none but a precise correspondence would answer the purpose) with that of any system in general use, or which, through the various senses attached in different places to the same word, would not cause perhaps greater perplexity and afford greater openings for fraud than the assumption of the English unit of linear measurement; and if this is to be adopted it would be vain to wait for the chance of its being settled on a different basis from that on which it now rests. Hence His Excellency the Governor in Council thinks the English foot, or the English yard, might be adopted as the basis of the Indian scheme, with all the advantages of complete definiteness and with a minimum of inconvenience. Both measures are generally known throughout India, and already used by the more intelligent Natives in preference to their own vague and varying measures.

7. It appears far more likely that the measurement of area should eventually be built upon the linear unit than that the latter should be derived by an inverse process from the former. If, therefore, it be thought desirable to carry out the system of measurements with scientific accuracy and completeness, it will be necessary to adopt as the unit of "square" measure the square foot, or the square yard, rather than to deduce from the acre a convenient submultiple square, one side of which shall furnish a definition for the unit of linear dimension. Whether the maximum defined measure of area should consist of the number of square feet or square yards contained in an acre, or of some other number, is a question to be determined by considerations partly of the comparative advantages and disadvantages of the decimal system, and partly of the inconvenience of disturbing a system already in extensive use.

8. The unit of measure of capacity should from a scientific point of view be the cube as that of the measure of area should be the square of the linear unit. The measure for grain needs not differ from that for liquids. If a linear unit should be definitely adopted, the introduction of a cubical measure bearing a simple relation to it ought sooner or later to follow as of course, and therefore perhaps the sooner the better. In this process the English measures of capacity would be discarded, and this might occasion some temporary inconvenience, until the English measures were reformed, as eventually they must be, on a similar principle.

9. The unit of weight should theoretically be a definite bulk of liquid of uniform density at a particular temperature, and this bulk should bear a simple relation to the linear unit. The English pound has not this advantage, but it is in such general use, and approaches so nearly to the half of the popular unit, the seer, that it should probably be adopted on grounds of convenience as the standard unit of weight. One hundred pounds might be termed a sotee or (pucka) "maund," and ten maunds a candy, if it were thought desirable to retain the two latter names. If the English cwt. should be reduced to lbs. 100, as seems not unlikely, there would at once be a practical identity between the two systems.

10. Facility of calculation would be promoted if along with a decimal division of the monetary scale a universally decimal system of Weights and Measures could be introduced. Otherwise greater inconvenience than advantge would follow, through the prices of any but integral quantities of goods often running off into endless decimal fractions. At present the divisions of money depending on the prime numbers 2 and 3 correspond to the actual (which are also the simplest) divisions of measurement and weight. It has been doubted whether even on theoretical grounds the adoption of a decimal system is to be desired, but it is certainly not to be desired, unless adopted simultaneously for money and for the measurement of all things in which men ordinarily deal.

11. The question of assimilation resolves itself practically into that of assimilation or adaptation to the English standard. The views of His Excellency in Council on the adoption of the English units of weights and measurement have already been expressed. The adoption of the English scales of multiples and submultiples of these units does not seem necessary or desirable. They are based on no uniform or consistent principles, and all authorities on the subject demand their readjustment. The

adoption of the units alone supplies the means of assimilation to any extent at a future time, and to proceed further at present would almost certainly entail the necessity for fresh disturbance hereafter.

12. His Excellency the Governor in Council thinks, therefore, that while the English pound and the English foot as the units of weight and length or area, and perhaps a cubic foot. or some simple sub-division of a cubic foot, as a unit of capacity, might be introduced with advantage, nothing more should be attempted at present. To decimal multiples of the unit with specific names there could perhaps be no serious objection, but the submultiples should be allowed to proceed by popular method of sub-division into annas or $\frac{1}{16}$ths, as they will do naturally, unless some other method be prescribed. Complete definiteness and adaptability to the English standards when put on a permanent footing would thus be secured, together with facility of accurate. calculation, at as little sacrifice of general convenience as is compatible with the attainment of those important ends.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. BIRDWOOD,
Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 4th November 1865.

No. 2866 OF 1865.

True Copy forwarded for the information of the Chamber of Commerce.

(Signed) A. F. BELLASIS,
Commissioner of Customs.

Bombay, Office of Commissioner of Customs, 9th November 1865.

No. 2305 OF 1865.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the CHIEF SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT.

SIR,—In reply to your letter as per margin, appointing the Commissioner of Customs, Lieutenant Colonel A. De Lisle, and Mr. Andrew Grant, a Committee to deliberate on the best mode of attaining a uni-

No. 2240, dated 14th December 1864, General Department.

form system of Weights and Measures for all India, we have now the honor to submit the following report.

2. Having given this subject their best consideration, the Committee would beg to lay before His Excellency in Council the following suggestions relative to a uniform system of Weights and Measures for all India.

Weights.

3. The Committee are in favor of a decimal system of weights with the English pound avoirdupois as a unit. Should a decimal system of weights be introduced at Home, it seems probable that the familiar weight of a pound avoirdupois will be chosen as the unit, and the two systems at Home and in India would thus be brought into harmony, while the desirable object of having some check for weights of easy access by the public, such as a certain number of the current coin which exactly corresponds to the unit of weight, is provided for by the selection of the Committee, as the pound avoirdupois exactly corresponds in weight with 70 of the copper pice in general use. The scale would stand thus with its decimal multiples and submultiples.

			A pound.	A pound.			
		A tenth of a pound.	1 lb.	1 lb.	A decade.		
	A hundredth of a pound.	1	lb. $\frac{1}{10}$	lb. 10	1	A cental.	
A thousand of a pound.	1	$\frac{1}{10}$	lb. $\frac{1}{100}$	lb. 100	10	1	A millard
1	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{1}{100}$	lb. $\frac{1}{1000}$	lb. 1000	100	10	1

4. Names would have to be given to the different weights, and it is suggested that these should be indicative of the decimal division; thus for the multiples of a pound the English names might be the unit, one pound; a decade, 10 lbs.; a cental, 100 lbs.; a millard, 1,000 lbs. The Hindoostanee names,

might be, the unit, ek pound ; ek duskee, 10 lbs. ; ek sotee, 100 lbs. ; ek hazaree, 1,000 lbs. In like manner for the submultiples of a pound the English names might be, the unit, one pound.

a ..... $\frac{1}{10}$ of a lb.

a ..... $\frac{1}{100}$ of a lb.

a ..... $\frac{1}{1000}$ of a lb.

The Hindoostanee names might be—

The unit, ek pound.

Ek dus ounsh pound..... $\frac{1}{10}$ of a pound.

Ek shut ounsh pound..... $\frac{1}{100}$ of a pound.

Ek hazar ounsh pound ..... $\frac{1}{1000}$ of a pound.

2.—*Liquid Measure.*

5. As there seems to be no liquid measure widely adopted as a standard throughout India, the Committee think there would be little difficulty in introducing a Measure having the English gallon holding ten pound avoirdupois of distilled water at the temperature of 60° Fahr. as the unit.

6. As in India the water is usually at a higher temperature than 60° Fahr. and is distilled water is not easily procurable in every day life, a gallon of clean water might be taken as weighing as nearly 10 lbs., as is necessary for ordinary purposes.

7. The scale, which need only consist of submultiples, would stand thus:—

One Gallon.	Deci Gallon.	
$\frac{1}{10}$th of a Gallon.	One.	Centi Gallon.
$\frac{1}{100}$th of a Gallon.	$\frac{1}{10}$th	One.

Names would also have to be given to the different divisions of the Measure as in the case of Weights; thus the English names of the submultiples of a gallon might be the unit, a gallon; a deci gallon, 1-10th of a gallon; a centi gallon, 1-100th of a gallon. The Hindoostanee names might be the unit ek gallon; ek dus ounsh gallon, 1-10th of a gallon; ek shut ounsh gallon 1-100th of a gallon.

3.—*Dry Measure.*

8. The gallon might be taken as the unit here also, with a decimal scale, which need only consist of multiples. The scale would stand thus :—

	Deci Gallon.	One Gallon.	One Gallon.	Dek Gallon.	
Centi Gallon.	1	$\frac{1}{10}$ of a Gallon.	10 Gallons.	One.	Cent Gallon.
1	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{1}{100}$ of a Gallon.	100 Gallons.	Ten.	One.

9. The English names to be given the multiples might be the unit, one gallon; a dek gallon, 10 gallons; a cent gallon, 100 gallons; and the submultiples a gallon, a deci gallon, and a centi gallon; and the Hindoostanee names might be the unit, ek gallon; ek dus gallon, 10 gallons; ek so gallon, 100 gallons, and for the submultiples ek gallon, ek dus ounsh gallon, and ek shut ounsh gallon.

4.—*Linear Measure.*

10. The Committee cannot recommend anything more convenient or useful than the English measures of an inch, foot, yard, and mile.

5.—*Square or Land Measure.*

11. The English acre as a unit, decimally divided, is what he Committee recommend for adoption.

12. Whatever may be the system of Weights and Measures eventually adopted by the Government of India, the Committee

would strongly urge that, after reasonable notice by proclamation, the Act of Council legalizing the new system should be imperatively enforced over all British India, and that Native States should be pressed to adopt a similar system.

13. As any suggestion on the subject in hand may turn out of some practical value, the Committee, in addition to their joint report above, have given in an Appendix the written opinions of the individual members before they met for consultation.—We have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed.) A. F. BELLASIS,
President of the Committee for Weights and Measures.

A. DELISLE, Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.,
A. GRANT,
} Members.

Bombay, Office of Commissioner of Customs, 26th August 1865.

MINUTES BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Minute by Lieutenant Colonel A. DeLisle, R. E.

Some years ago General Shortrede allowed me take a note of his scheme for Decimal Coinage on a principle which would admit of assimilating Weights in India to the English system. Having nothing better to propose myself, I take this opportunity of bringing it forward.

The fundamental change made in this scheme is the reduction of the weight of the Rupee or Tola from 180 to 175 grains troy, whereby the Indian seer of 80 tolas becomes $80 \times 175 = 14{,}000$ grains = 2 lbs. exactly, and the Kutcha seer $40 \times 175 = 7{,}000$ grains = 1 lb. exactly, and the maund of 40 seers = 80 lbs. exactly, a number which would admit of more convenient reduction into English denominations than the present Imperial Maund of $82\frac{2}{7}$ lbs.* Should the cwt. ever be altered into the cental of 100 lbs., a consummation devoutly to be wished, the proposed maund would be exactly $\frac{3}{4}$ cental.

* 35 and 72 are not convenient numbers for reduction.

Metal.	Present Rupee Coinage.	Decimal Rupee Coinage.	English Coinage. Present.	English Coinage. Decimal.	Weight of proposed new Decimal Coins.	
Copper.	Pies 0.96†	Cents 1	Farthing 0.96	Mil. 1	Grains troy 35	
	,, 1.92	,, 2	Half penny 0.96	,, 1	,, 70	
	,, 3.84	,, 2		,, 2	,, 140	
	,, 4.76	,, 3	Penny 0.96	,, 3		
	,, 5.68	,, 4		,, 4	,, 280	
	,, 7. 6	,, 5		,, 5		
Silver.	Annas 1.6	Cents 10		Mil. 10	Grains 17.5	
	,, 3.2	,, 20		,, 20	,, 35	
		,, 25	Six pence.			
		,, 40	Tenpence or franc			
	,, 8	,, 50	Shilling.	,, 50	,, 87.5	
	,, 16	,, 100	Florin.	,, 100	,, 175	
Gold.		500	Half Sovereign.		Grains 61.637	
		1,000	Sovereign.		,, 123.274	See note at end.

The English Alloy is said to be 37 Silver to 3 Copper,
Indian Alloy ... ... 11 Silver to 1 Copper,
or 33 Silver to 3 Copper.

The English florin weight 174.545 grains with a legal remedy of .727 grains, so that the proposed Rupee of .175 grains would be within the remedy, and might for practical purposes be considered as identical.

	Grains Silver.	Grains.
English florin contains...	161.645	12.9
New Rupee Indian Alloy	160.419	14.581
New Rupee English Alloy	161.874	13.126
Actual Rupee Indian Alloy... ...	165.	15.

t is proposed that the new Rupee have the English proportion

† In the above Table the small correction for the diminution in the value of the Rupee has been neglected. The weight of the cent. has been fixed at 70 grains troy, so that one Rupee's weight of copper coin will equal 7,000 grains = 1 lb. avoirdupois. This makes the weight about six grains more than it would be in direct proportion to the old Pice,

Grains. Grains.
Coinage..... 3 : 1.92 : : 100 : 64; but this disadvantage is necessary to give the means of easily checking the correctness of a pound weight.

of alloy—37 silver to 3 copper, in which case its intrinsic value, according to the silver it contains, would be to that of the actual coin as 165: 161.874 : : 100: 98.2, showing a loss in value of about 1.8 per cent.

The value of the new Decimal Rupee and of the English florin are so nearly alike that it ought not to affect the commercial relations of the two countries.

Taking the present Rupee as a standard, the value of the new Decimal Rupee would be .43d. less, rather more than $\frac{3}{7}$d. and less than $\frac{7}{16}$d.

In India the intrinsic value of the Decimal Rupee as proposed above would be 4 pies less than that of the actual rupee of 180 grains.

Weights.

So far the Indian arrangement of—

80 Tolas = 1 Seer,
40 Seers = 1 Maund,

has been adhered to, but I submit that if any change is made at all it would be very convenient to adopt the English pound as the standard, and use the cental instead of the maund, leaving the pound to be subdivided into 16th or ounces.

The advantage of decimal division is most felt in dealing with large numbers, or the multiples of pounds; the submultiples are of less importance, and may be left in the binary scale.

Then 40 Tolas = 1 seer or pound,
100 Pounds = 1 Cental,
20 Centals = 1 Ton of 2,000 lbs.,

all convenient numbers for calculation, and near to those at present in use in England, viz. the cwt. and ton of 2,240 lbs.

1 Cental = 100 lbs. cost Rupees 17.27 80 lbs. cost 17.27
1 Pound cost „ 0.175 1 lb. cost $1 \cdot \frac{2}{8}\frac{7}{7} = .215$.

In the first case we only have to shift the decimal point; in the second we must also divide by eight.

Or, if it is considered preferable to retain the seer of 80 tolas or 2 lbs., the scale might run thus—

80 Tolas = 1 Seer = 2 lbs.,
100 Seers = 1 Cental = 200 lbs.
10 Centals = 1 Ton = 2000 lbs.

The seer and cental and ton would then resemble the French kilo kilogramme and myriagramme.

Liquid Measure.

The Gallon (Imperial) = 10 lbs. distilled water at 62° Fahr. seems to be the best unit to be adopted, as India has no liquid

measure of her own. The gallon is already in use for all purchases of liquids by the Commissariat Department.

The scale might be as under—

Cub. in. 8.665 to one gill

4 Gills = 1 Pint,
2 Pints = 1 Quart,
4 Quarts = 1 Gallon,

The Bengal rek of 2.0571 pints is very nearly the same as the quart, and might be subdivided thus—

Cub. in. 4.332 to one Chotauk.

4 Chotauks = 1 Kunki or Half Pint,
4 Kunkis = 1 Quart or Rek,
4 Reks = 1 Gallon or Pali.

Liquid Measure need not extend beyond the gallon.

Dry Measure.

The Bengal Mun of 8,2286 gallons is so nearly equal to the bushel of 8 gallons that the latter might be adopted without inconvenience.

2 Pali or Gallons = 1 Phura or Peck,
4 Phuras = 1 Mun or Bushel,
8 Muns = 1 Khundi or Quarter,

I think, however, it would be a better plan to introduce the system of selling grain by the pound and cental instead of by measure.

Measures of Length.

The foot, yard, and mile, are now so well understood in most parts of India that they may be adopted without much difficulty. It would be an improvement to make the mile 5,000 feet, or 50 chains of 100 feet each. This is not essential, however, as the mile can be easily subdivided with the Gunter's Chain, 80 to the mile.

Square Measure.

The acre and its sub-divisions as already introduced in the Bombay Revenue Survey.

Note on proposed new Coinage.

It will be observed that the Quarter Rupee is omitted in the list of new coins for this reason—In the copper coinage it is more convenient to have 1-2-4 cent. pieces than to have a five cent. piece, and if the Quarter Rupee of 25 cents is retained the Anna piece of 4 cents will not divide into it without a remainder, that is, it would take six Annas and one cent. to pay the Quarter Rupee. It is also objectionable on account of its not being a coin of even tens, while the 20 cent. piece is useful and convenient, as two twenty cent. pieces would equal a franc at

par, or ten pense, the present postage on Overland letters *via* Marseilles.

(Signed.) A. DeLisle, Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.
Member of Committee on Weights and Measures.

1*st February* 1865.

Minute by J. D. Inverarity, Esq., dated 2nd February 1865.

I agree with Lieut.-Colonel DeLisle, and think he could not do better than send in a similar report to Government. A meeting of the Members can be convened if Mr. Grant desires it for further discussion.

(Signed.) J. D. Inverarity.

2*nd February* 1865.

Minute by A. Grant, Esq., dated 4th April 1865.

I do not agree with the other members of Committee that Colonel Shortrede's plan is the best, seeing that his plan not only alters existing Weights and Measures, but also interferes with the currency, thereby causing an incalculable amount of change and confusion, and probably a proportional amount of additional opposition to its introduction and acceptance by the people.

Some of Mr. Bayley's proposals seem reasonable and desirable, while others do not recommend themselves so much.

His plan for Linear measurement, taking the English yard as the basis with the already familiar divisions of feet and inches, I think might be adopted.

His plan for Land measure with the acre for a standard and decimal sub-divisions is also good.

His plan for a unit of weight I dont approve of. I think the English pound avoirdupois might be taken as one unit with decimal sub-divisions and multiples. The measure for capacity might be what holds a pound weight of distilled water at 60° Fahr., for a unit with decimal sub-divisions and multiples.

I would suggest a meeting of Committee.

4*th April* 1865. (Signed.) A. Grant.

Minute by A. F. Bellasis, Esq., dated 17th June 1865.

1. I have read Lieutenant Colonel de Lisle's minute, and I so far concur with him that if a decimal system of Weights and Measures were in force in Great Britain I would then adopt the same decimal system for India; but as I fear the introduction

of a decimal system into England is very distant, and as I observe that even since Mr. W. H. Bayley's Pamphlet was published in 1857 two Parliamentary Committees have sat on the subject without coming to any definite result, it seems improbable that any radical change will be made for many years—perhaps not in this century.

2. This being so, I am of opinion that it will be best to take the English weights as a standard, and to assimilate the current Indian weights to them as near as possible.

3. I would, therefore, take the English pound as a unit, and adopt the following Table of Weights:—

Weights.

Pds.	Qrs.	Cwt.	Ton.		Tolas.	¼ Seer.	Seers.	Dhurras.	Maunds.	Khandy.
1				=	40	1				
2				=	80	2	1			
28	1			=	1120	28	14	1		
112	4	1		=	4480	112	56	4	1	
2240	80	20	1	=	89,600	2240	1120	80	20	1

4. The above Table has the advantage—

1. That the English weights are retained intact.

2. That the Native weights are retained with one exception, viz. that a maund is made to contain 56 seers, instead of 40 seers.

3. That 1lb. contains 16 oz. and that 1 Rupee or 1 Tolah contains 16 Annas, submultiples useful in calculation.

4. That all the totals are divisible by 4 and by 10, and that also most of the multiples are divisible by the same numbers.

5. That the number of ¼ seers in a Khandy correspond with the number of lbs. in a ton. The number of Dhurras in a Khandy correspond with the number of quarters in a ton, and the number of maunds in a Khandy with the number of cwts. in a ton. Thus there is great uniformity and very little change in either the English or Native scale of weights, and the familiar

names of both are retained; the only exception being the number of seers in a maund, which has been altered from 40 to 56 seers to make a Khandy correspond with a ton.

Liquid Measure.

5. There being no real Liquid Measure in use in India, I would adopt the English measure, viz.—

Pint.	Quart.	Gallon.
1		
2	1	
8	4	1

and these would be easy of introduction, as they are simple, and are already in general use in large towns and military cantonments.

Dry Measure.

6. This should be much the same as the Table for Weights; the Measures being readily checked by their capacity to hold water:—

Pounds.	Cwt.	Ton.	Kandy.	Maund or Furra.	Seer.	Half Seer.
1						½
2					1	2
112	1			1	56	112
2240	20	1	1	20	1120	2240

Linear Measure.

7. I would adopt the English standard of an inch, a foot, a yard, and a mile, which are already very generally known in India.

Square Measure.

8. Here I would use the acre with its submultiples, as divided by the Revenue Surveys, which now has become universally known by every Ryot and owner of land, viz:—

Katee.	Goonta.	Acre.
1		
20	1	
400	20	1

9. I firmly believe that the above simple plan for the uniform adoption of English and Native Measures might be very generally and advantageously adopted in India. All that is wanted is that Government should be bold enough to decide upon this or any other plan they may approve, and then to pass a short enactment stating that from and after a fixed date such approved Weights and Measures shall be in universal use throughout all India.

10. It was thus that the Emperor of the French remodelled and introduced a uniform system of Weights and Measures and a decimal coinage into France after consulting all the Savans of Europe. He decided for himself, and the Imperial edict went forth as Law. Taking the globe for his model, and dividing the distance between the Pole and the Equator into 10 millions of parts, he obtained a metre for the unit of length, and the submultiples and multiples of this metre formed his Linear Measure, and so he despotically and authoritatively framed his other standards of weights, &c.

11. The Governor General of India, and he alone, can exercise like despotic power in India. His edict on the question once passed would command obedience, all imaginary difficulties would vanish, and in a few years the blessings of thousands would testify to the wisdom of Government in authoritatively determining a uniform system of Weights and Measures.

(Signed) A. F. BELLASIS,
Officiating Commissioner of Customs.

Commissioner of Custom's Office, Bombay, 17th June 1865.

APPENDIX K.

IMPROVEMENT OF COTTON CULTIVATION.

No. 4552 of 1864.

REVENUE DEPARTMMENT.

Memorandum.

The undersigned presents compliments to the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, and begs to forward, for the information of the Chamber, copy of a letter from the Commissioner in Sind, detailing the results of the experiment of introducing the Peruvian Cotton into the different Collectorates of that Province.

No. 194 dated 21st October 1864.

(Signed) E. RAVENSCOTT,
Officiating Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 16th November, 1864.

No. 194 of 1864.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To His Excellency the Honorable Sir H. B. E. FRERE, K.C.B.,
Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

HONORABLE SIR,—In reference to Government Resolution in the Revenue Department No. 3597, dated 29th September 1862, regarding the introduction of Peruvain Cotton into Sind, I have the honor to inform your Excellency in Council that the experiment has been made in so unsystematic a manner that it is impossible to arrive at any decision as regards its failure or success.

2. It appears that in Kyrrachee some seed was sown in what is called Burn's Garden, in which there are now 570 healthy plants. Some was sown in the Government Garden, and some in the Sehwan District, but no record was kept of the quantity. The produce of Burn's Garden, though small, is pronounced by the Chamber of Commerce to be superior to Candahar Cotton, which is the best that comes into this market.

3. Experiments were made at Hydrabad, Halla, and Mahomed Khan's Tanda. At Halla the plants appear strong and healthy, but the produce was destroyed by a worm, and at Mahomed Khan's Tanda the plants were injured by the overflow of the "Goonee." There seems to be every prospect of a good crop from these plants this year.

4. The Collector of Shikarpoor reports that the experiment has failed in his charge, excepting some shrubs in the Jail Garden, which were injured by the frosts in the Spring of this year, but which have now recovered, and look healthy.

5. The Political Superintendent Upper Sind Frontier appears to have received no seed, while that received by Captain Tyrwhitt was in a damaged condition.

6. The results as above detailed are unsatisfactory, but if they can be held to prove any thing, I consider the proof to be in favor of the adaptability of the Sind climate and soil to the Peruvian Cotton. We shall, however, be in a better position to judge from the crops of the present year.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) S. MANSFIELD,
Commissioner in Sind.

Commissioner's Office, Kurrachee, 21st October 1864.

No. 2556 OF 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the BOMBAY CHAMBER of COMMERCE.

SIR,—In continuation of Government Memorandum No. 4552 dated the 16th November last, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward to you for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, copy of a letter from the Commissioner in Sind and of its enclosures detailing further results of the expe-

No. 101 dated 29th May 1865.

riment of introducing Peruvian Cotton into the different Collectorates of that Province.—I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,
Officiating Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 16th June 1865.

No. 101 OF 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From the COMMISSIONER IN SIND.

To His Excellency the Honorable SIR H. B. E. FREERE, K.C.B.,
Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

HONORABLE SIR,—As desired in Government Resolution No. 3597 dated 29th September 1862, I have the honor to report further on the results obtained from the Peruvain Cotton seed received from Government in that year.

2. My letter No. 194 dated 21st October last will have acquainted your Excellency with the unsatisfactory nature of the first year's experiment.

3. There are 18 plants in the Jail garden at Shikarpoor. During the past season two of these blossomed in November, but were nipped by the winter frosts. All were consequently covered with matting to protect them from the weather, and were reported in March last to be looking healthy with a fair promise of bearing cotton this season.

4. The Collector of Hydrabad reports that at Halla the plants failed; that at Mahomed Khan's Tanda they ran to wood, and that consequently very little cotton and seed were produced. The general result of the Collector's experience is that, owing to climatic influences, the plant grows luxuriantly, but tends to wood and produces little fruit.

5. In the Kurrachee Collectorate the experiments have been more carefully conducted by Mr. Donaldson, who rents an estate at the Mulleer. I append a copy of the Collector's report and accompaniments, and will only add that with more perfect knowledge

No. 178, dated 10th instant.

as to the period of sowing and proper system of culture (to be obtained only by experiments), and more systematic superintendence, the general results may be more favorable to the introduction of the Peruvian Cotton plant into Sind.—I have the honor to be, Honorable Sir, Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) S. MANSFIELD,
Commissioner in Sind.

Commissioner's Office, Kurrachee, 29th May 1865.

No 178 OF 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From the COLLECTOR OF KURRACHEE,
To the COMMISSIONER IN SIND,
Kurrachee.

SIR,—With reference to your Memorandum as per margin, I have the honor to submit a copy of a report by Mr. Donaldson of an experiment in the growth of cotton from Peruvain seed tried by him at the Mulleer, with a note on the same by Mr. Hughes, the Cotton Inspector. Both the report and the note appear to me to contain much valuable information, and I beg to suggest that they be printed and placed at the disposal of the press, and that copies be sent to the Chamber of Commerce; I will myself send Mr. Donaldson a copy of Mr. Hughes' note.

No. 467 dated 8th March 1865, calling for a further report for submission to Government on the results of the last season's crop from Peruvain Cotton seed.

2. Mr. Donaldson's experiment has been tried under much more favorable conditions than any experiment with Foreign cotton seed that has yet been tried in Sind. Generally the seed has been sown late in June, after the rise of the inundation, and in all such cases the cotton has been destroyed by the boll-worm. In one or two cases seeds have been sown in March and has yielded good cotton, and it was inferred that all seed sown at that period would do the same. Mr. Donaldson's experiment, however, shows that this is not the case. The boll-worm in his case has been as destructive as if the seed had been sown in June, notwithstanding the utmost attention having been paid to the plants.

3. I confess that after this I have not much hopes of any Foreign cotton succeeding in Sind, but still the experiment cannot be regarded as final, whilst Mr. Donaldson has himself some hopes of succeeding by a change of treatment, and whilst—as Mr. Hughes clearly shows—many important precautions have been omitted.—I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) W. R. LAMBERT, Major,
Collector of Kurrachee.

Collector's Office, Kurrachee, 10th May 1865.

MULLEER, *April 30th* 1865.

To the COLLECTOR OF KURRACHEE.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that in the latter part of the year 1863, I received 30 ounces of Peruvian Cotton seed from your predecessor Mr. Erskine, and I promised to report the result of its cultivation at this place.

The plants raised from this seed having just finished bearing their first crop, I hasten to submit the particulars relating to them.

On the 18th November 1863, I sowed 6 ounces of the seed, none of which came up. On the 16th December following, I sowed another 6 ounces from which I succeeded in raising about a dozen plants, I attributed so few seeds germinating to the very cold nights which prevailed at that time, and did not sow again until the 31st March when the night temperature had considerably increased, on this day I sowed the remainder of the seed (18 ounces) which came up satisfactorily, producing 980 trees, two hundred of these were thinned out and transplanted, afterwards, the whole progressed as well as could be wished to the middle of November 1864, when the plants were very strong and healthy, ranging from 3½ feet to 7 feet in height, they also promise a large number of blossoms some of which had opened; by the middle of December, a large number of very fine pods had been formed, but shortly after this date they became very much afflicted by the boll-worms, which destroyed fully two-thirds of the pods, attacking them when they were about three-fourths grown, the remainder of the pods were nearly all dried up and withered, owing, I believe, to the very cold nights, and hot days,

and also to the heavy dew and rain which occurred from January to March of this year; so that none of the pods opened kindly and the whole only produced the small weight of 6 lbs. of seed and fibre combined. During the period mentioned, the cotton trees generally appeared to suffer from the climate, the leaves becoming of a rusty brown colour, and eventually falling off.

The order of blossoming did not follow that of sowing. The transplanted trees were the earliest, and the trees from the December sowing, the latest. The period of blossoming extended from the middle of November to the middle of the following February.

The soil on which the plants are growing is a sandy loom of good texture and considerable depth, it was deeply dug and formed into trenches 6 feet apart and the seed dibbled in at intervals of three feet, and these distances seem about right for this description of plants. Since the late warm weather set in, the plants have recovered themselves, and are looking healthy and vigorous, but I am inclined to believe, that unless they can be induced to blossom at a more favorable season, they will never produce even a moderate crop. With a view to effect this alteration, I am now trying an experiment with a portion of them, and will, when the proper season arrives, let you know the result.

Comparing the produce of the Peruvian with two other kinds of cotton grown here last season, it is unfavorable, being only at the rate of 30 lbs. to the acre gross, whilst the other average 97 lbs. gross, but the latter was sown at least two months too late.

The seed sown at the proper time having proved worthless. In conclusion I would add my impression that cotton-growing will not prove a profitable occupation at the Mulleer, as all the produce I have had from the acres is under a 1,000 lbs. gross, which may yield perhaps 250 lbs. of clean cotton which has cost for its production Rupees 1,124 for native labour only, without charging anything for superintendence, machinery, animal labour, or the clearing and grubbing land. The greatest attention having been paid to digging round the plants and keeping them free from weeds.—I have, &c. &c.,

(Signed) P. E. DONALDSON.

(True Copy)

(Signed) W. R. LAMBERT, Major,
Collector of Kurrachee.

My Dear Major Lambert,—Many thanks for Mr. Donaldson's report, which I have read and now return, also for the Peruvian Cotton seed just received. With regard to Mr. Donaldson's report, especially that referring to his experiments with Peruvian seed, I beg you will let me offer a few remarks because I have lately been reading up the latest published works on its growth in Peru, with a view of making my notes useful on some future occasion. Mr. Donaldson complains of the first year's slight yield of the Peruvian plant, now this is *always* the case with that kind which rarely in the first year yields as much as a *pound* per plant, but when 2 or 3 years old will give per plant as much as from 8 to 12 pounds of *clean* cotton. This is in Peru it is true, but there seems to me to be as many enemies to the cotton plant there as in this country. Mr. Donaldson has planted his Peruvian seed *three* feet *only* apart; they ought to stand *fifteen feet* apart, that is to say 193 plants should go to the English acre. In Peru the Cotton seed is sown in some places in September and is ripe in May; an interval of say 236 days. What Mr. Donaldson complains of in the matter of blight and worm also occurs in Peru, the first is generally attributed to augmented heat and dryness of atmosphere to an intense degree. The boll-worm, which is I think from what I can make of it—a kind of caterpillar also prevails in Peru, and is there said to abound in cases of unwonted humidity. Excessive dampness no doubt greatly favours their production. But there are other pests to the plant in Peru which do not seem to be found here. These crickets nip the tops off the young plaints at night, mice carry off the pods for the sake of the ripe seeds, the larva of a kind of beetle destroys the seedlings, and a kind of bug disfigures the Cotton wool, and lastly an aphis attacks the leaves and causes them to swell up in reddish blisters, hindering the proper development of the flower and fruit. But, notwithstanding all these hindrances making the crop as it does a very precarious one, Peru is still considered a good country for Cotton cultivation, and for remuneratiug intending planters. Pray excuse my boring you with these remarks, but they are careful jottings from several works on the subject and may not prove uninteresting. I think that Upper Sind is the place for Peruvian Cotton cultivation and not the moist parts of Lower Sind. It is a great question whether Mr. Donaldson has expended the large sum he mentions economically and well.—Yours, &c.,

(Signed) A. W. Hughes.

9th May.

No. 2353 of 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, six copies of an extract from the proceedings of Government relative to the results of experiments by the Revd. Mr. A. Davidson, in the cultivation of Cotton at Booldana.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

No. 2351 dated 2nd June, 1865.

(Signed) F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 2nd June 1865.

No. 2351.

EXTRACT *from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Revenue Department, dated 2nd June* 1865.

Read the following letter from Revd. A. Davidson to E. W. Ravenscroft, Esq., Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, dated 2nd January 1865.

In reply to your letter No. 5053 of 1864, I have the honor to communicate, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, some of the results of my investigations in Cotton culture at Booldana (in Berar).

1. *Egyptian Cotton Seed.*—Plants large, and yield fair, but the staple very weak. A few plants, however, were of good staple. I have preserved the seeds of these for furture sowing. The extensive growth of the black seed varieties is desirable because—

a—The plants are very vigorous.
b—The seed is rich in oil.
c—The staple is long, and can be ginned cheaply and rapidly by any kind of gin, except the saw-gin.

2. *Peruvian Cotton*—First year's planting very vigorous plants, but will not flower till next year.

3. *Hinganghat Cotton.*—The seed did not arrive till 2½ months after the proper time for sowing; still I sowed it, and it soon outgrew all the other kinds. Considering the time that it was sown the yield is such as to lead me to expect that in Berar the growing of Hinganghat cotton will prove more remunerative than any other kind. Hinganghat plants yield very largely, and the cotton is of the finest quality. When Oomrawuttee is at 400 Rupees the candy, Hinganghat is eagerly sought for at 520 Rupees. I think it would not be difficult to introduce the growth of it in Berar extensively, as it is well known and highly valued by the local Sowkars and cotton merchants. I should be glad to hear of Government being able to secure a large quantity of Hinganghat seed of the present season for distribution in Berar and Khandeish.

4. *American (Dharwar) Cotton.*—Four years' observation and enquiry have convinced me that this species, as cultivated in the usual way, will never be adopted in Berar and Khandeish. The general experience of ryots is against it on the ground of its being such a *tender* plant. Too much or too little rain is alike ruinous to the yield. With great care and a fair season it is more remunerative than native cotton; but it will be long before it will obtain the necessary care, whilst the seasons are becoming more and more uncertain. Four years ago I commenced to study the American plant, and three years ago it occurred to me that the solution of the difficulties attending its growth would be found in taking notice of the fact that the American species is a triennial in countries not visited by frosts. Now triennials attain their full bearing powers the second year. Acting on this thought I have during each of the last three years sown a small quantity of ground with American seed together with another crop, which may be Jowari or Bájri or Til (Sesamum), but Jowari is best; so that the year's expenses are covered by the crop of Jowari or Bajri, and if the latter rains are abundant there will be a small crop of cotton too, but if not the ryot will have lost nothing by the presence of the small cotton plants among his Jowari. The second year the plants are in a position to profit at once by the first rains, which are the most nutritious of the season. They attain a large size, develop the true tap root, and at the proper time yield most prolifically good clean cotton. The plants are so strong as to be unaffected by excessive deficiency of rain, and by means of their long tap root they bear long after first year's plants have ceased bearing. I have this year sown more than one hundred acres in the way before mentioned, and

hope to verify this theory, on the large scale, by a rich harvest next year.

RESOLUTION.—Copies of the Rev. Mr. Davidson's letter may be sent to Dr. Forbes, to all Collectors (through the Revenue Commissioners), and to the Chamber of Commerce, and placed on Editor's Table. A few copies also to the Chief Commissioner Central Provinces, the Resident Hydrabad, and the Commissioner in Sind.

Ordered that copies of the above be forwarded to—

The COMMISSIONER in SIND,

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER N. D.,

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER S. D.,

Dr. G. F. FORBES, Cotton Commissioner.

(Signed) F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 2696 OF 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR.—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward to you for the information of the Chamber of Commerce the accompanying copy of a letter from Dr. Forbes, Cotton Commissioner, reporting the measures which were adopted last season for the restoration of pure American Seed to the Dharwar Districts, and the results which have been obtained therefrom.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

No. 90 dated 27th May, 1865.

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,
For Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 23rd June 1865.

No. 90 OF 1865.

From G. F. FORBES, Esq., Cotton Commissioner.

To F. S. CHAPMAN, Esq.,

Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—Referring to the despatch of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, dated 31st March 1864, No. 25, I have the honor to submit for the information of Government, the following report of the measures which were adopted last season for the restoration of pure American seed to the Dharwar Districts, and of the results which have been obtained therefrom.

2. For several years past, dating almost from the introduction of New Orleans Cotton to the Dharwar Districts, admixture of the Native variety (in its cultivation) has existed to a certain extent, and has been the chief cause of the deterioration of its value in the home markets, as compared with the produce of America itself.

3. When sent home, pure and unmixed Dharwar American Cotton has been sampled and valued in the Liverpool market at the full ruling price of the same description of produce then on sale of American growth, and it is sufficiently established that the quality of the produce has not undergone deterioration from the climate of this country.

4. In the early instances the admixture which occurred was chiefly accidental, and was owing to oversight or carelessness on the part of the cultivators, by whom both varieties were then grown in separate fields, without due care being subsequently exercised in keeping the seed apart.

5. This cause of admixture, however, diminished as the cultivation of American Cotton gained favor and displaced that of the Native variety, until at length in many of the Talookas little or none of the latter was ultimately grown; and were it not for other causes which have since come into operation it is not improbable that by this time all admixture of the Native variety would have disappeared.

6. In one of the Talookas (Bunkapore) several years ago the cultivators weeded out all plants of the Native variety from their New Orleans fields, and their produce was consequently in greater demand and fetched higher prices than that of any other portion of the Collectorate. It must not be inferred that this pure cotton found its way direct to the home market. It is well enough known that it was made use of in Bombay for passing of

the inferior saw-ginned cotton of Khandeish and Sind, and its enhanced price was merely ruled by the extra amount that it would carry of this adulteration. There are, however, exception on record in which the Bunkapore cotton was sent home pure in large quantity from Bombay, and in which it attracted marked attention in the home market.

7. The sudden and enormous rise in prices that immediately followed the American crisis completely altered the usual course of cotton dealing in these districts. The produce of almost every field sown with cotton was purchased (in anticipation of the crop) by sowcars and speculators, frequently at extravagant sums, even as compared with the prices then ruling, and which were higher for "Dharwar saw-ginned" than for any other description of Indian cotton.

8. Whatever loss was likely to be incurred in these speculations was provided for by the admixture of the inferior and cheap descriptions of Native cotton obtained from the adjoining districts. Both sorts were mixed together and ginned at the cleaning Establishments of the dealers. The seed was subsequently returned to the Ryot (that being part of his contract), and as by no possible means could the two descriptions of seed thus mixed be subsequently separated, they were sown by the Ryot in the condition in which he received them from the dealer.

9. The consequences were soon apparent. In the first season succeeding these contracts the whole standing crop of American Cotton throughout the districts was extensively mixed, and the year following the evil had increased to an extent which threatened the entire loss of the cultivation of American Cotton.

10. On examination the growing crops in every part of the country it was scarcely possible to say which of the two varieties of plants predominated in the New Orleans cotton fields, and (as reported by me at the time) even in Bunkapore, from which pure seed had always formerly been procurable, it was impossible to obtain the supplies required for experimental purposes in other parts of India.

11. The necessity for intervention of some sort to correct this state of matters became imperative, not in the interests of the cotton trade only, but also with regard to those of the cultivators who were in danger of losing entirely a variety of produce which had not only placed them to advantage with others of their class throughout India, but had also raised them to wealth and independence years before the advent of the American crisis.

12. Though the interest at stake were of sufficient magnitude to warrant a considerable sacrifice both on the part of Government

and also that of the cultivator, still it was difficult at first to decide or determine upon any measures that were at all practicable towards effecting the desired end.

13. Had the proportion of Native seed been small, as was formerly the case, the Royt might have got rid of it without any material loss to himself by weeding it out when the plants were very young, as was done at Bunkapore, and by having previously sown an additional proportion of seed to the acre, the ultimate loss of produce would have been very trifling; in fact there might have been none whatever owing to the increase yield which the New Orleans cotton affords. But where the admixture amounted to equal parts of each variety any such mode of proceeding became quite inadmissable, and then even supposing that future fraudulent admixture on the part of the sowcars and dealers was effectually put a stop to under the Act, still as the yield of seed is greater from the Native plant than it is from that of the New Orleans, the predominance of the former would go on increasing from season to season until the latter variety had entirely disappeared.

14. Keeping these facts in view I proposed to Government, in a memorandum dated 4th November 1863, the only measure which then appeared to me feasible. Referring to the introduction of pure seed, it is stated in paragraph 4—"This I propose to endeavour to effect by purchasing fields or portions of fields from the Ryots, and picking the produce separately, reserving the seed for distribution at next sowing time, and disposing of the cotton (in which latter I have promise of every assistance from the Bombay merchants), or by obtaining the consent of the Ryots to my picking the new Orleans cotton apart from the other, gin and return the cotton to them, and reserve the seed, paying them its value."

15. A sum of six thousand Rupees was consequently placed at my disposal, and I proceeded to Dharwar and made a tour of the Cotton Districts, carefully enquiring into the inclinations and wishes of the cultivators with respect to the restoration of pure American seed, and I may say without exception that I found all of them most anxious to obtain it, and lamenting the condition at which their fields had arrived.

16. I explained the mode in which I intended to proceed as above quoted, but it only gave rise to disappointment in so far as that it held out but a remote prospect of all parties being served, and for the time being only a very few of their number would derive any benefit from it.

17. The actual money value of the quantity of seed required for sowing the whole of the districts would be considerably over a lac of Rupees, and six thousand Rupees, however well laid out, would go but a very small way to meet the measure generally. Some other plan was, therefore, desirable.

18. The Cotton Frauds Act had just then come into operation. It opened out a much more effectual mode of proceeding, and I did not hesitate to take advantage of it.

19. From what I have already explained of the mode in which cotton dealing had been conducted of late, viz., by the wholesale disposal of the growing crop to the sowcars and dealers, it was evident that without their cordial co-operation little or nothing could be effected.

20. The bulk of the cotton then ripening would pass from the fields into their hands, and besides the fact that this produce itself would be an admixture of two varieties, even though it might not be deemed fraudulent, they had still on their hands a very considerable proportion of the preceding season's crop, every bale of which, by their own admission, had been mixed by them at their cleaning establishments.

21. This cotton they know was fairly open to confiscation in terms of the Act, and being very uneasy about the chance of its being seized on its way to Bombay they eagerly embraced the measures proposed to them, through which they would escape that danger without incurring either loss or expense to themselves.

22. The Talooka of Dumal was the first portion of the Collectorate for which arrangements were entered into, and a description of them will suffice for what was done in the other Talookas which were also similarly dealt with.

23. A meeting was held at Guduk by public intimation to discuss matters, and it was attended by a large assemblage of the cultivators, dealers, and sowcars. The cotton crop of the season was then just ripening. It fortunately happens that American Cotton comes to maturity a full fortnight before the Native variety, though both are sown at the same time. Had it been otherwise, and if both had ripened together, it would not have been possible to have attempted to pick them separately without risk, or indeed certainty, of a great deal of admixture taking place. The object to be effected, therefore, was to secure the very first picking which was certain to be without a single seed of Native Cotton, and to preserve it free from subsequent admixture for the purpose of obtaining seed from it for the following season's sowing.

24. One-sixteenth part of the whole crop so preserved would be sufficient, that is to say, the seed obtained from the produce of one acre of cotton would on a fair average suffice for sowing sixteen acres of land. It was accordingly calculated that the produce of the first picking would be more than amply sufficient to supply the whole of the seed required.

25. An estimate having been made of the quantity of seed which would be wanted for the Talooka, the sowcars and dealers then present entered into a written engagement binding themselves to preserve carefully a sufficient quantity of the cotton first picked to furnish the supply required, and at the approach of the next sowing season (viz., in June following) that they would open eight depots throughout the Talooka within convenient reach of all the cultivators, to whom the seed was also to be sold at the ruling Bazar rates, and not higher.

26. In consideration of these arrangements on their part, I, on behalf of Government, agreed to the following conditions:—

1*st*.—That the remainder of the cotton in store from last season's crop would be allowed to pass to Bombay without any interference on the part of the Cotton Inspectors under the Act.

2*nd*.—That the cotton crop then ripening, though extensively mixed in the field, would also be permitted to pass unmolested so long as they refrained from further admixture of it at their cleaning establishments, it being their impression then that this cotton also would otherwise be liable to confiscation.

3*rd*.—As they were required to supply the pure seed to the Ryots at the retail Bazar price, I agreed to give them a sum of money from the fund supplied to me which would suffice to cover them from all loss upon the transaction which they would otherwise entail from having to cart the seed to the depots, and also from having to maintain a small establishment at each place for the sale and disposal of the seed. I may here mention that the aggregate sum paid for this purpose amounted to Rupees 793-0-2, which represents the cost to Government of these proceedings.

27. It was not found necessary to enter into any written agreement with the cultivators. Those of them who had not then sold their crop of cotton engaged to preserve the first pickings for seed in the manner above described, and this was also done by the dealers and sowcars, many of whom were ex-

tensive owners of fields. All other parties were only too glad to have the means provided by which they could be readily and conveniently supplied.

28. It was provided, however, in the agreement with the dealers that in all cases where seed was sold to a Ryot a receipt should be taken showing the quantity supplied and price paid, and that those receipts were to be kept as vouchers, the object of this being to guard against or trace the sale of impure seed, if such should take place Arrangements similar to those above described were also made for the Talookas of Hoobly, Bunkapore, Kurujghee, and Rancebidnoor.

29. Having stated the measures adopted, I have now to report the results as ascertained from information procured from various sources, including my own tours of inspection throughout the Districts.

30. The recorded receipts or vouchers taken from the cultivators show that 3,060 of the number had purchased pure seed to the extent of 14,860 maunds. This is exclusive of the Native State Savanoor, and also of one Talooka in which, owing to the illness and somewhat sudden death of the Mamlutdar, proper arrangements had not been made for receipts and accounts, though the distribution of seed was well cared for.

31. The succeeding sowing season was somewhat late, but as soon as the crops were sufficiently grown to admit of the plants being distinguihsed from each other I made an extensive tour of the Collectorate, passing through the districts of Hoobly, Gudug, Nowlgoond, Dumul, Bunkapore, Kurujghee, and Ranecbidnoor, and the intermediate Native States, the line traversed embracing over 150 miles of cotton fields, and I was gratified to discover satisfactory proof that the contractors had not failed in their engagements.

32. In Hoobly and Gudug, which had been notorious for more extensive admixture than elsewhere, it was difficult in many very extensive fields to discover even a trace of Native cotton. Bunkapore and Kurujghee I found especially free from it, and I may mention that the Nawab of Savanoor, whose country is bounded by these Talookas, entered very cordially into the arrangements at the time they were being made. The cotton cultivation of his districts is almost exclusively confined to the American variety, and I found it very pure and free from Native admixture.

33. The result of my personal observations during this tour was such as led me to believe that all that was desired had been

accomplished; but, with the view of obtaining more general information respecting the whole district, I directed the different Mamlutdars to submit full reports upon the condition of the American cotton fields with regard to admixture of Native plants in their respective Talookas.

34. I am now in possession of these reports. All of them state that the measures adopted have been effectual, and that where any admixture of Native plants was observed it was only to a very trifling extent, and not more than might be accounted for by accidental causes.

35. I have made another tour into the cotton districts since the crop has been picked with the view of observing the condition of the seed at the cleaning establishments, and was on this occasion accompanied by the Assistant in charge of the Dharwar Factory, who was on his tour of inspection of gins. At all the places visited where cotton cleaning was going on, we found the seed, without exception, pure and unmixed.

36. On this occasion I purchased a quantity of Kuppas (seed cotton), which is now on its way to the home Government for experimental purposes, and it will serve as a fair specimen for judging of what has been done towards the restoration of pure seed.

37. From other sources I have had highly satisfactory accounts of the purity of the present crop. The Manager of the extensive New Cotton Company at Karwar (successors to the Manchester Cotton Company) has more than once made mention of it, and in a letter dated 12th April last he states—"I have been pressing most splendid cotton of the new crop, by far the best cotton I have ever seen from Dharwar." The Cotton Inspector of Coompta and Karwar also, whose experience of Dharwar cotton dates from many years back, in a note of the 23rd March last says—"The cotton coming forward now is the best that I have ever seen."

38. In summing up from all obtainable information (in addition to what I have personally observed) I may safely say that the great evil of admixture of seed, which so seriously threatened the market value of Dharwar American Cotton, if not the entire extinction of its cultivation, has now been overcome to an extent which, with ordinary precautions, need give rise to no further uneasiness on the subject.

39. Even supposing that in some spots escaping observation there may have been some admixture in the present crop—and it would be rather too much to expect that in one single season such could have been entirely obviated—still there is now an am-

ple abundance of pure seed within reach of all parties. An exchange of seed is a regular custom with the Ryots, and there will be little difficulty in inducing those who require it in this manner to obtain what they may want from a pure source, and that which they give in exchange to be made use of for cattle feeding.

40. The only real danger to be provided against is the risk of the dealers and sowcars returning to their former malpractices of again mixing the cotton at their cleaning establishments, and there is but one mode of preventing this.

41. Whatever the defects of the Cotton Frauds Act may be in other respects, it contains a clause providing effectually for this very object, Dharwar cotton being that which was kept in view in inserting it.

42. Much of the inefficiency now complained of in the wording of the Act is due to the opposition it at first encountered, but this is one point upon which there cannot be much difference of opinion. No one, however inclined to be obstructive to beneficial measures merely because they happened to be introduced by parties with whom they were at variance, can for a moment assert that such admixture of cotton is otherwise than fraudulent and done with fraudulent intent, or that the suppression of it can be viewed as in any way interfering with the freedom of trade.

43. Whether the Cotton Frauds Act may or may have not proved as beneficial elsewhere, as I believe it ought to have been, the above mentioned results are entirely to be attributed to it, and if it had not been in force they would never have been attained. The experience also of the last three years has proved that it will only be by the judicious enforcement of its provisions that the cotton of Dharwar, which is the best and the most suitable in India for the home market, can be preserved from fraudulent adulteration.

44. It is to be regretted that these districts are now, and have been for sometime back, without the services, of a Cotton Inspector, this being the period at which they are most required, besides that the absence of one leads to the impression that all supervision is about to be abandoned, more especially as but very little has yet been done here by that Department.

45. The duties of the Inspector for these districts when once they are taken up will differ very materially from those of other places, but they may be briefly defined. Almost the sole object he will have to attend to will be prevention of the admixture of Native cotton during the cleaning process in the saw-gins.

46. If this is properly carried out there will be but little to fear from subsequent adulteration in these districts, because owing to the marked distinction between churkied and saw-ginned cotton, should the two varieties be in any other way mixed or introduced together into the bales, the fraud would be so open to detection that the attempt would but rarely be made.

47. It is very desirable that the person selected for this post should be both judicious and zealous. If so, he should be able to carry on his duties most efficiently without affording grounds for a single complaint either of interruption or annoyance to those with whom he will have to deal.

48. He should on his arrival let it be generally understood that seed at all cleaning places will be inspected by himself at regular intervals, and that until such inspection has taken place no seed is to be made away with.

49. This duty ought not under any circumstances to be delegated to his Native subordinates, on account of the facility it would afford them of accepting bribes which would be freely offered by parties desirous of evading the restriction, and also of the possibility of extorting money by threats of false accusations.

50. During the busy part of the season each of the cleaning establishments of any note should be visited by the Inspector at least twice a month. If he is but moderately active, this will be found perfectly practicable. A list or map of these establishments should be kept at the Office of the Chief Inspector, and the reports made to him should state precisely the extent to which these visits have been made.

51. Seed once mixed in the saw-gins cannot be afterwards separated; it will remain a standing proof that adulteration has been practised, and the owner of such seed should be warned that when he comes to offer his cotton for sale he will be rigorously dealt with.

52. If proper precautions are taken at the time and proof recorded the fraud can in any Court be clearly brought home to the actual perpetrator, and there should be no risk of the case breaking down, an evil which has unfortunately been too frequent. The certainty of a conviction following every prosecution would very speedily put an entire stop to, the practice. If adulteration within the district can be thus put a stop to, the chances of its taking place elsewhere, as above noticed, are, I trust, in a fair way of being removed.

53. The wealthy and influential Company which has just been established in Karwar in succession to the Manchester Cotton Company will, when it has fairly come into operation, not only be the means of bringing European agency into direct communication with grower and local dealers, which will of itself be a great safegaurd against subsequent adulteration, but also, from the Company's being in a position to press and ship direct from that port at all seasons, the produce will stand a fair chance of reaching England in less than half the time hitherto required, and without having undergone the deterioration in value which it has always been subject to from exposure and imperfect storing during the monsoon both here and in Bombay.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed.) G. F. FORBES,
Dharwar, 27th May 1865. Cotton Commissioner.

No. 141 OF 1865.

To the CHIEF SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2696 of 1865 dated 23rd ultimo, handing for the information of the Chamber, copies of a letter from Dr. Forbes, Cotton Commissioner to Government, dated 27th May, reporting the measures adopted by him last season for the restoration of pure American Seed to the Dharwar districts and the results obtained therefrom.

2. In reply I am to express the high sense the Committee entertain of the services of Dr. Forbes in his attempt to restore cotton cultivation in the Dharwar districts, and to secure production,—from pure American Seed, together with their hope that his exertions may be rewarded with permanent success.

3. The Chamber has had samples of Kuppas of Dharwar Cotton recently submitted to it for inspection by Dr. Forbes, both from new American Seed and seed that had been acclimatised in the Dharwar districts for fourteen years.

4. The Committee consider both samples of very superior quality: the sample from seed that had been acclimatised fourteen years, is somewhat inferior to the sample of Kuppas raised from new seed, but it is still greatly superior to all other descrip-

tions of Indian Cotton, and seems to prove that the quality does not materially deteriorate when acclimatised, a result of the highest importance, in reference to the efforts now being made under the direction of Government and otherwise, for improving the quality of the cotton produced in India.

5. I am further directed by the Committee to call the attention of Government to a para: in Dr. Forbes' letter which in their opinion, appears, to be open to much objection.

6. In paras: 41 to 43, Dr. Forbes expresses his opinion on the Cotton Frauds Act and its working as he had good right to do, and his opinion will be noted with the attention it deserves by all who are interested in the improvement of our cotton cultivation.

7. In para: 42 of the letter however, Dr. Forbes has not been satisfied with expressing his own opinion: he has also permitted himself to impute motives to those who differ from him, in a manner likely to give offence.

8. The Committee desire me to express their regret that such a paragraph should have been permitted to appear in a communication otherwise valuable and made public under the sanction of the Government of Bombay.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 31*st July* 1865.

No. 3595 of 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—With reference to your letter No. 141 dated the 31st ultimo,* I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to observe, that as paragraph 42 of Dr. Forbes' letter therein referred to is entirely general, as no person or body of persons is specified, nor as far as Government can understand

* On the subject of Dr. Forbes' report on the measures adopted by him last season for the restoration of pure American Cotton seed to the Dharwar District and the result obtained thereupon.

alluded to in any manner which could identify or individualize the object of the remarks, Government can hardly concur in the objections of the Chamber of Commerce,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

H. E. JACOMB,
Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 22nd August 1865.

No. 3347 OF 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward to you, for the information of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, copies of the papers, noted in the margin, on the subject of the distribution of Cotton Seed and of the measures undertaken by Dr. G. F. Forbes, Cotton Commissioner, during last season for extending the cultivation of the American or New Orleans variety of Cotton from the acclimatized seed of Dharwar as well as for its introduction into other Provinces,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

Letter from Dr. G. F. Forbes, Cotton Commissioner, No. 99, dated 7th July 1865, with accompaniments.
Resolution of Government, No. 3344, dated 3rd August 1865.

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,
Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 3rd August 1865.

No. 99 OF 1865.

To F. S. CHAPMAN, Esq.,
Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward, for the information of Government, the following report upon the distribution of Cotton Seed, and the other measures undertaken by me during last sea-

son (viz. that of 1864-65) for extending the cultivation of the American or New Orleans variety of cotton from the acclimatized seed of Dharwar, and also for the introduction of it into other Provinces.

2. The appended Statement A exhibits in detail the localities and parties to whom seed has been forwarded, also the quantities supplied. The total distributed to all quarters amount to 3,121-11-14 Maunds, or 87,410 lbs., and the districts most extensively supplied have been Mysore, Sind, the Punjaub and North-West Provinces, Berar, and Nagpore.

3. I have not yet received reports of the results of last season's operations in the above places, with exception of the two latter, which were visited by me, and which I shall presently notice; but with respect to Mysore I may mention that there is no doubt regarding the climate being favorable to the culture of this description of cotton, because, like the districts of Raichore and Bellary (which also adjoin Dharwar), its cultivation has been taken up by the Ryots of their own accord, which is a certain criterion of its being found to answer; and if there were greater facilities within their reach in the form of Branch Factories (similar to those in the Dharwar districts) for repairing and keeping their machinery in order, I have no doubt that a great impetus would be given to the extension of the growth of this valuable cotton.

4. As regards Sind, from my recollection of the climate of that country, almost every portion of which I have traversed, though many years have elapsed since then, I doubt whether it will be found favorable to the growth of this variety of cotton. My impression is that the only hope of obtaining a superior description of produce from that Province will be by a judicious use of the means which it possesses of irrigation, and that, in all probability, the varieties found most suitable will be those which are now being tried, viz. Peruvian and Egyptian cottons.

5. Of the North-West Provinces and the Punjaub, where, I believe, vast tracts of suitable soil are available, I entertain a different opinion. I believe that the efforts now being made in those quarters to introduce the New Orleans cotton from the acclimatized Dharwar seed will be crowned with success, and that the Home markets will yet be extensively supplied from those sources.

6. Though I have not yet received any regular reports of the results of last season's sowing, still I have heard from a reliable private source that very fine New Orleans cotton was grown in

the Dherah Dhoon, the yield per acre being very abundant; and I have no doubt that the other valleys on the southern slopes of the Himalayahs will be found equally suitable.

7. The chief obstacle hitherto complained of in those distant quarters has been the difficulty and uncertainty of having supplies of seed transmitted in sufficient time for sowing. For the forthcoming season a supply of 80 maunds of Dharwar seed has been despatched to the Agri-Horticultural Society of the Punjaub, and any failure or delay in its arrival on this occasion in ample time for sowing operations will be discouraging to future efforts, as every practicable precaution was adopted to prevent such an occurrence. The seed, was collected from the very first pickings of ripe cotton; it was forwarded without loss of time by steamer to Bombay, and thence to the care of an Agent at Kurrachee.

8. It will be seen from what I shall have to mention hereafter that the loss or delay of even a few days in sowing is enough to destroy entirely the chance of what might otherwise have proved a successful undertaking, and I regret to add that the very insufficient and uncertain transit arrangements in this country, both with respect to Steamers and Railway, have led to several such failures.

9. I visited Berar for the first time in the season of 1863-64, when the cotton crop was in full growth, which afforded me an opportunity of judging of the capabilities and the productive quality of the soil; and notwithstanding my being aware of attempts having been made to introduce American cotton, which had not proved successful, I felt satisfied, from the aspect of the country, the general character of the soil, and the appearance of the growing crops as contrasted with what I knew of Dharwar, that if an experiment could be carefully conducted it would prove that there was no natural obstacle to the introduction of New Orleans cotton from acclimatized Dharwar seed, and I resolved upon making the attempt.

10. Whilst on the spot I communicated my views and wishes to Major Stubbs, then Assistant Commissioner in West Berar, and found that he took a warm interest in the question, and was prepared to afford all the assistance I required towards carrying out the proposed experiment.

11. From what I could learn of the history of the previous attempts made it appeared to me that their want of success was mainly to be attributed to two causes. *First*, those which had

been made with seed imported from America failed owing to the deterioration which the seed had undergone on its passage out, from having been shut up in the heated and close atmosphere of the ship's hold. I have had several opportunities of testing seed brought out in this manner, and in most cases I found that the germinating power had been entirely lost. In one instance twenty-five per cent. of the seeds did grow, but the plants proved weak and sickly. *Secondly*, the experiments made with seed obtained from Dharwar failed chiefly on account of lateness in sowing. Owing to the difficulty and uncertainty of transit, the seed always arrived much too late in the season.

12. To ensure a fair trial of the experiment I considered that about twenty acres of land would be required, and instructions were issued by Major Stubbs to make the necessary arrangements for securing this quantity in suitable localities, and also for providing that the cultivation should be conducted in strict accordance with written instructions which I then furnished.

13. In order that the fields might be conveniently within reach of observation it was necessary that they should be as near as possible to the Mamlutdar stations, and accordingly the Talookas of Akola and Mulkapore were selected; a field of nine acres and twenty-six goontas was obtained at the former place, exclusive of nine acres and sixteen goontas at the latter. The instructions were that two sowings should take place with an interval of a fortnight, half the fields to be sown at each time, the object of this being to determine the effect of late sowing as well as to have the double chance of suitable weather for the young plants.

14. The first sowing took place at both localities on the 13th July, and the second on the 30th and 31st of that month. Major Stubbs had left for England before this period, and was succeeded by Captain Bell, who took charge of the experiment, and saw that the instructions were carefully attended to during his stay, but unfortunately he also left before the cotton had ripened.

15. I visited Berar in the following December with the view of personally observing the results of the experiment. I found that the early part of the cultivation had been attended to with due care; the ground seemed to have been in the first instance well prepared and the sowing regularly; a first weeding and thinning of plants had also been attended to, but after that the field at Mulkapore would seem to have been entirely neglected, possibly owing to Captain Bell's departure. No second or third weeding had taken place, and the land when I saw it was in a very

dirty condition. One picking of cotton had been obtained, and a second one was more than ready, as the ground was strewed with the fallen produce, but nothing was done towards gathering it until my arrival.

16. The effects of lateness in sowing were at once apparent. On examining the field there was a marked difference between the plants of the late and early portions of it. The former were stunted in appearance, and carried only a very moderate quantity of cotton, whilst the others were in bulk and growth quite equal to anything I had seen even in Dharwar, and were heavily laden with large "bolls." The return from the first picking of early plants amounted to 17 maunds (of 80 lbs. each) of seed cotton, whilst that from the half of the field which had been last sown amounted only to two maunds. I should mention, however, that I was informed that the weather had been unfavorable after the second sowing had taken place, and that the plants had suffered for some time from want of moisture.

17. The heavy crop then on the plants and the large and bulky "bolls" they carried were in striking contrast with the produce of the adjoining cotton fields. I was attended on the spot by a number of the neighbouring cultivators, who fully admitted the difference, but a remark made by them was characteristic of their caution in these matters before admitting conclusions: they said "it is quite clear that you have double the quantity of cotton per acre that our fields will give us, but what sort of cotton is it, how is it to be cleaned from the seed, and, what price will it fetch? We should like to know something about that before taking to it."

18. At Akote the experiment was attended with precisely the same results, and when the whole cotton of both places was collected it was sent down by rail to a Ginning Establishment in Khandeish, and the return from it amounted to exactly 1,600 lbs. of clean cotton.

19. Taking into consideration the deficiency arising from the late sowing (which was purposely tried as part of the experiment) the above may be reckoned as the quantity that would have been obtained from sixteen acres if sown in time, being at the rate of one hundred pounds of clean cotton per acre, which even in Dharwar would be considered a large return.

20. I have not disposed of this cotton, which is now baled in Bombay, and I would beg to suggest that it be sent direct to the Home Government, in order that its quality may be tested at the spinning mills in Manchester in contrast with New Orleans

cotton of Dharwar growth which is being sent home for experimental purposes. Its price when realized can be afterwards credited to the Funds from which I have carried out the experiment.

21. As soon as I was in possession of the above information I wrote to Major Stubbs, now Assistant Resident at Hyderabad, giving full details; and in view of the success which had attended the experiment I expressed a hope that his Government would now take the matter up at its own expense for the purpose of securing the general introduction of New Orleans cotton into Berar. I beg to annex copies of the communication received in reply, from which it will be seen that my suggestion is being acted upon, and I may mention that the supplies of cotton seed therein referred to were forwarded by rail from Bombay on the 22nd of May last.

22. From the annexed Statement showing the cost of this experiment it will be seen that a very extravagant price had to be paid for the use of the land, amounting to Rupees 11 per acre; the owners took advantage of the occasion, and there was no option left except to submit to their extortion. The charges of cost of cultivation submitted by the Mamlutdars are also extravagant in the extreme, considering the very imperfect manner in which the latter part of the work was attended to.

23. The total expenditure incurred upon this experiment is shown in the annexed Statement of items (marked B), and amounts to Rupees 718-4. From the fine quality of the cotton I have no doubt that it will fetch the highest market price ruling, which is at present above one shilling per pound. At that rate its value will nearly cover the whole outlay. Had the seed been sold it would have realized Rupees 120, with which addition a profit might have been shown: this, however, I have not considered so much to be desired as utilizing the results of the experiment, and with that view I have caused the seed to be given away gratis to cultivators who were willing to give it a trial. A portion of it has been distributed to the Ryots of Yawul, a district in Khandeish, in which it was expected it would be found to answer.

24. Respecting Khandeish, I have also to state that an experiment with New Orleans cotton seed from Dharwar similar to that which has just been described was conducted at Dhurrumgaum under Mr. McKenzie, late Superintendent of the Government Factory at that place, the results of which were equally satisfactory. I have not yet received the promised details of the cultivation return, &c., and Mr. McKenzie was absent when I visited

Dhurrumgaum in December last, but an inspection of the fields showed me that the experiment had been carefully and successfully conducted, the plants were luxuriant and strong, and gave promise of yielding a plentiful crop.

25. From Berar I proceeded, at the special request of Mr. Temple, Chief Commissioner, to visit Nagpore and the Central Provinces. The annexed printed copy of a Memorandum submitted by me after the completion of my tour, and also of the comments and orders issued thereon by the Chief Commissioner, furnish in detail the results of my observations and suggestions respecting the districts visited.

26. I may mention that due care was taken to ensure the timely arrival of the supplies of seed required. The Traffic Manager of the Railway Company was good enough on this occasion to permit them to be sent in the Guard's Van of a passenger train, and I have since been informed of the seed having reached its destination in ample time for this season's sowing. Two Cotton Gins from the Dharwar Factory are also on their way to Nagpore, but I have not been able to supply the model of the Cotton Press alluded to by the Chief Commissioner pending further instructions to Government Resolution, No. 5021, dated 17th December 1864.

27. On the subject of the new Lever Cotton Press just mentioned, I beg to state that whilst recently in Dharwar, I availed myself of an opportunity of having it tested in presence of Major Anderson, Revenue Survey Commissioner, and Mr. Hart, the Executive Engineer of Dharwar, and I annex below a copy of their written opinion respecting it :—

We the undersigned were at Dr. Forbes' request, present on the 3rd instant at the Dharwar Factory for the purpose of testing the working capabilities of his Lever Press.

There was only enough of cotton available to form two bales, the pressing of which occupied exactly ten minutes.

Four men are required to work it, the operation consisting of filling, pressing, roping, and clearing. These were respectively performed in the following average time :—

	Minutes.	Seconds.
Filling.....	2	0
Pressing.....	0	30
Roping and clearing.....	2	30
Total...	5	0

The machine, we are informed, is intended only for half-press-

ing cotton to facilitate and economize carriage to the port of shipment from up-country, for which purpose we consider it to be admirably adapted.

The machine is simple in construction, and little likely to get out of order even in the most careless hands. It can be readily made up or repaired by any village carpenter.

(Signed) W. C. ANDERSON,
J. HART, C. E., Executive Engr. D. D.

Dharwar, 6th June 1865.

28. My own further experience of this Press has quite satisfied me of its suitability for the purpose for which it is intended. I fully believe that it only requires to be made publicly known to ensure its being brought into general use, and that if it were so it would prove highly advantageous to the cotton trade.

29. Judging from the time occupied at the above trial the machine is capable of packing one hundred and twenty bales of cotton per day of ten hours, but, as a matter of course, the amount of work obtained from it will depend upon the expertness of the hands employed, and it must not be estimated from so short a trial. Taking the average extent to which Coolies exert themselves in this part of the country, and supposing a double set of four men each employed to work alternately, between eighty and a hundred bales a day might be reasonably expected.

30. The Press has this season been fully tested in Dharwar, where many hundred bales of cotton pressed by it have been forwarded to the sea coast, the practical results as regards economy in carriage being that, on an average, 1,300 lbs. of cotton were conveyed on a common country cart which would carry only from eight to nine hundred pounds packed in the ordinary loose bags, or "Dokras"; this was equivalent to a saving more than 30 per cent. in cart hire. Such an advantage would of itself secure the adoption of the Press in districts where cotton was to be carted even twenty or thirty miles, more especially if it had to pass over bad roads because from the compactness of the load a cart carrying these bales would not be liable to be upset, whereas with the ordinary "Dokras" the load is so top-heavy and unwieldy that a very slight inequality of the road is generally sufficient to overturn the cart.

31. Economy in carriage, though very desirable, is, however, by no means the most important object to be attained by the introduction of a suitable machine for packing cotton for transport from the interior. At the present time it is of the utmost impor-

tance to the trade of this country that every effort should be made to preserve the produce from deterioration of any description, and the half pressing which I here advocate will not only protect it from the risk of damage to which it is exposed in loose Dokras from dust, moisture, and other external causes, but it will also, in a great measure, prevent its being tampered with, pilfered from, or even entirely changed, which latter has not been of unfrequent occurrence.

32. The first machine made at Dharwar was calculated to press bales of only one hundred pounds weight. This size was adopted at the special request of the parties who were desirous of putting it to the test. I subsequently understood, however, that objections had been made in other quarters to the small size of this bale, and that there was an impression that the power employed could not be applied to bales of a larger size, and as this was an important point to determine I availed myself of the opportunity of being recently in Dharwar to have another Press constructed capable of turning out a bale of 180 lbs. weight. This latter machine on trial was found to work quite as easily as the former one, and required only the same amount of labor, viz., four Coolies; it was also apparent that, if desired, the size of the machine might be increased even to the pressing of a bale of 300 lbs. weight.

33. With regard to the price at which the press can be made, I annex copy of the bill received from Mr. Walton for the larger sized one last constructed, which, including the usual percentage added for work done at the Factory, amounts to Rupees 365-13-4. If made elsewhere the cost will be more or less than the above sum in proportion to the relative price of timber and workmen's wages.

34. In my letter to the Chief Secretary to Government dated 29th November last, I suggested the means which I then thought would best serve the purpose of bringing this Press into general notice and use, namely, by distributing working models and drawings of it to the distant cotton growing provinces, and to parties who might be desirous of making the machines for themselves. But as ordinary village smiths and carpenters are not generally capable of working from drawings and models, and might make mistakes, I now think that, notwithsanding the cost of carriage, the safest plan in these cases would be to have a full sized machine supplied from the Dharwar Factory as a pattern. —I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) G. F. FORBES,
Cotton Commissioner.

Bombay, 7th July 1865.

A.

STATEMENT *exhibiting in detail the localities and parties to whom New Orleans Cotton Seed has been supplied, also the quantity.*

When supplied.	To whom supplied.	Quantity. Maunds of 28 lbs	lbs
1864.			
10th Mar.	Rev. Arthur Davidson, Booldana.....	35	20
„ „	Messrs. Fleming & Co., Kurrachee..	26	..
„ „	G. Warner, Esq., Depy. Commissioner, Baitool..	20	..
„ „	Major Stubbs, Asst. Commissioner, W. Berar..	8	..
„ „	F. S. Chapman, Esq., Collector of Sattara.....	16	21
4th April.	Agri-Horticultural Socy. Central India, Nagpore.	1	..
17th „	Depy. Commissioner Dhera Gazeekhan, Punjaub.	52	26
„ „	C. Wingfield, Esq., Comr. Oude, Lucknow.....	7	27
18th „	Messrs. Fleming, & Co., Kurrachee.....	23	24
„ „	Collector of Khandeish.....	9	6
„ „	Messrs. Darley Butler, & Co., Columbo..	5	..
„ „	Captain T. D Karr, Broach.....	3	16
„ „	J. B. Peile, Esq., Talookdaree Settlement Officer, Dhundooka.....	5	..
23rd „	Punjaub Trading Company.....	24	5
„ „	Depy. Commissioner Dhera Gazeekan. Punjaub.	5	..
„ „	Capt. J C. Wood, Political Agent, Nimar.....	4	..
6th May...	Secy. to Govt. North-West Porvinces, Agra. ..	1,002	..
„ „	Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.....	10	..
13th June..	Mr. A. Mackenzie, late Superintendent Gin Factory Dhurrumgaum.....	6	2
„ „	Messrs. W. Nicol & Co., Bombay.....	20	..
„ „	F. S. Chapman, Esq., Collector of Sattara.....	31	..
27th „	—Ashburner, Esq., Depty. Comr., Chindwarra.	..	15
August..	Supdt. of Nuggur Divison, Mysore.....	1,618	..
1865.			
29th Mar.	Commissioner of Central Provinces, Nagpore...	40	..
.....	The Agri-Horticultural Society, Punjaub.....	80	..
May.. ..	Capt. W. Caddell, Commissioner W. Berar....	16	..
„	J. R. Carnack, Esq., Settlement Officer, Nagpore	16	..
„	M. E Darke, Esq., Akola.....	16	..
4th July ..	Collector of Surat.....	12	..
„ „ ...	Sub-Collector of Broach..."	2	..
„ „ ...	Collector of Kaira.....	2	..
„ „ ...	Collecter of Ahmedabad.....	2	..
	Total	3,121	22

(Singed) G. F. FORBES,
Cotton Commissioner.

Bombay, July 1865.

No. 957 of 1865.

To Dr. Forbes,
Cotton Commissioner, Dharwar.

Sir,—In acknowledging the receipt of your demi-official letter dated the 21st April 1865, I am directed by the President to forward to you a copy of the instructions this day issued to the Commissioner of the Hydrabad Assigned Districts on the subject of a further trial to be given in Berar during the current year to the growth of New Orleans Cotton.

2. I am desired to request you will at once forward to Shea gaum the 200 lbs. of seed resulting in the experiment of last year in Berar, and which you inform me is lying at Bussawul, and that 300 lbs. in addition of fresh Dharwar grown New Orleans seed may be forwarded as soon as possible. You are aware that the seed to be available for the present year's growing should be in the cultivators' hands by the 1st June, so that no time is to be lost.

3. I am directed to add that any further suggestions in regard to the growing, &c., of the cotton seed will be thankfully received. I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. Stubbs,
Officiating First Assistant Resident.

Hydrabad Residency, 4th May 1865.

General No. 956 of 1865, Department No. 134.

To Captain W. Cadell,
Commissioner Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

Sir,—Dr. Forbes, Cotton Commissioner, having reported that the experiment made last year in Berar with New Orleans Cotton was, notwithstanding many disadvantages, a decided success, the Resident has determined to give this cotton a further trial during the present year in the Akola and Oomrawutee districts, and I am to request that immediate arrangements may be made for preparing fifty acres of land in plots of not less than ten acres each in the places you may consider best adopted to the growth of cotton.

2. Dr. Forbes has at Bussawul about 200 lbs. of the seed resulting from the former experiment, and this will be forwarded to you immediately to Sheagaum, from which place you will be careful to make arrangement for its being at once sent on to Akola. The rest of the seed required will be sent to you from Dharwar, and as Dr. Forbes is very anxious to ascertain by experiment whether the climate of Central India will prove as favorable to the New Orleans variety of cotton as that of Dharwar has done, or whether in the former the seed and staple deteriorate, you will be careful that the two different kinds of seed are not in any way mixed ; and in reporting on the success of the experiment you will state fully whether the seed from cotton grown in Berar, or the seed grown in Dharwar, has produced the finest staple.

3. The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner Central Provinces has this day been requested to forward to you copies of a report by Dr. Forbes on the subject of cotton in the Central Provinces, and of the Chief Commissioner's remarks thereon, but pending its arrival, and as no time is to be lost in the preparation of ground for the expected seed, I am directed to draw your attention to the following points.

4. Five localities are to be selected for experiment within three miles of the residence of a Civil Officer not below the rank of Tehseeldar. No experiment is to be made over an area of less than ten acres. The fields are to be selected for their fertility, and they are to be fields in which cotton has not been grown for one year. The spots having been selected, 100 lbs. of the seed is to be sown in each ten acre plot, the ploughing, harrowing and sowing, to be conducted in the same way as the people are accustomed to follow in preparing the ground for indigenous cotton; each process will be carefully gone through, and each plot will be visited as often as possible during each stage by the Officer superintending it. After the cotton sprouts there are to be at least two weedings, and when the crop ripens there are to be not less than four pickings, and the cottons picked is to be stored in dry baskets and kept in a dry place pending orders from this Office. Accurate accounts are to be kept of the expenditure and submitted with your report, and the outlay charged to the Municipal Funds. I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. STUBBS,
Officiating First Assistant Resident.

Hydrabad Residency, 4th May 1865.

B.

Cost of Experiments in Berar.

Particulars.				Amount.
Mulkapore.				
Rent of field	16	0	0	
Compensation to Tenant	24	0	0	
Hire of ploughing	16	0	0	
Ditto ditto (a second time)	9	9	0	
Ditto for removing roots, &c	10	6	0	
Ditto putting thorns	38	6	0	
Ditto sowing	10	0	0	
Ditto weeding	67	12	0	
Ditto watchmen	22	3	1	
Ditto picking	29	0	0	
Paper for Accounts	0	5	5	
Hire for packing Cotton	2	2	0	
Gunny Bags for packing Cotton	18	0	0	
Carriage hire of Cotton sent	15	4	3	
				279 0 3
Akote.				
Rent of field	49	4	0	
Compensation to Tenant	120	0	0	
Hire of ploughing	27	6	0	
Ditto sowing	7	2	0	
Ditto putting thorns	1	2	0	
Ditto weeding	14	7	0	
Ditto picking	11	9	0	
Gunny Bags for packing Cotton	16	0	0	
Hire for packing	2	9	0	
Ditto sending to Mulkapore	17	8	0	
				269 4 0
Extra Charges.				
Ginning 47 cwt., 2 qrs., 22 lb. of Kuppas, at Rupees 30 per Candy of 1,600 lb.	100	2	7	
30 Gunny Bags for Cotton	23	7	0	
6 Gunny Bags for Seed	6	0	0	
Railway charges on 21 Maunds, 5 Seers, of Cotton from Bhosawul to Bombay	29	9	6	
Pressing charges on 4 bales	6	0	0	
				165 3 1
			Rupees...	713 7 4

(Signed) G. F. Forbes,
Cotton Commissioner.

Bombay, July 1865.

Memorandum on the Cotton Fields of Nagpore by Dr. Forbes, Cotton Commissioner of Bombay.

I entered the Province of Nagpore on the 20th December, crossing the Wurdah river about five miles from Nachengaon, and moved on through Sailoo and Boree into Nagpore.

There is a considerable amount of cotton cultivation around Nachengaon, and I was surprised to see the crops so good in soil that appeared unpromising from being literally covered with stones. A very well cultivated plain stretches to the westward of the town of Nachengaon, and seen from the Dak bungalow, and cotton seems to predominate.

The road to Sailoo leaves Kowtah on the left, and passes through a number of villages, including Duhaigaon; the country traversed by the road is stony generally; but from the amount of cotton piled at several of the villages (Duhaigaon, Ailee, Kailee, and others) there must be a considerable amount of cotton cultivation in that part of the country. Beyond Boree the country is sparsely cultivated, and somewhat jungly for several miles, presenting very little cultivation until it approaches Nagpore itself, where cotton is not much cultivated.

I subsequently accompanied Mr. Temple on a tour back by Boree, and thence into the Wurdah district by Kandree and Jam. The first part of the road passed for several miles through low hills, with their jungle, and after crossing the Railway line it emerged into open country. Along this road, as far as Jam, there were several patches of well cultivated land, with cotton predominating; but by far the larger portion of the land was waste, and apparently of very fine quality, but said to require sub-soil drainage before becoming good for cultivation. From the encampment at Jam to Hingunghat, is a distance of about 8 miles. Stretching away to the right of the road there was a good portion of land under cultivation and bearing fair crops, but with a proportion of waste land until within a mile or two of Hingunghat, after which cultivation became more general, cotton predominating.

From Hingunghat we moved on (still in the Wurdah district) to Wurnaira, where an experiment had been tried with American cotton, the produce of which I saw on the spot, and to which I shall allude hereafter. The lands of this village appeared to be of very superior quality, judging from the luxuriance of the wheat and gram crops; but there was not much cotton to be seen.

From Wurnaira we crossed the Asoda valley, which is very rich and highly cultivated, chiefly with wheat and linseed, to Kangaon, which is on high land, and thence descended into a valley running along the banks of the Wurdah for about fifteen miles to a village called Undoree.

The fertility of this tract was infinitely superior to anything I had yet seen, and fully equals the finest soil of Guzerat and Dharwar; the growing cotton was especially remarkable, both as regards the height and exuberance of the plants, and also as to the comparatively increased size of bolls, and the superior length and quality of the staple.

At this point we crossed the river into Berar, landing at a village called Chicholee, from the fort of which a very considerable extent of cotton and other cultivation was visible stretching away to the foot of the hills about eight miles distant, the crops indicating an equally rich and fertile soil.

From Undoree our course was directed northward, but still in the valley of the Wurdah, which presented the same aspect as regards soil and cultivation as the land round Undoree, until we ascended to the village of Watkaira over a ridge from which the plains of both the Wurdah and Asoda rivers were visible; the latter we crossed within about a mile of the great cotton mart of Deolee. We found the surrounding country, especially to the northwards, extensively studded with cotton fields. As far as the eye could reach, the crops indicated a rich and productive soil; but there were many patches of uncultivated land available for further cultivation.

From Deolee we moved on to Anjee. Up to the village of Teegaon (where the plain was bounded by a ridge or spur of the Sautpoora range) the country on either side was similar to that abovementioned,—cotton cultivation was abundant, and the crop remarkably good.

A gap through this ridge of the hills led into the valley of the Dham river, the bank of which we passed nearly up to Anjee. The soil of this valley appeared to be of good description, and its cotton fields were equal to any we had seen. It extended along our course up to a village named Kurungna-Morungna, where the large piles of Kupas that were stored indicated extensive cultivation of cotton in that neighbourhood.

Beyond this point we ascended a stony range of the Sautpoora hills, which extended for about fifteen miles, and led down a descent of about three hundred feet, to the valley of the Wurdah, and a stretch of some miles of rich cultivation brought us to the important cotton mart of Arvee.

The distance thus traversed from Nagpore to Arvee extends to about one hundred and fifty miles. With the few exceptions I have mentioned, the whole country, or rather all the culturable area, is eminently adapted for the cultivation of cotton; but at present a small proportion of the area only, as compared with other produce, is under this crop. About one-sixth or one-seventh of the total cultivated area, or, as I am informed, about 150,000 acres, is under cotton in the Wurdah district, and at least one-fifth of the whole area has not yet been brought under cultivation of any description. This includes area taken up by villages, towns, roads, streams, and the like. But after making deductions for all this, we should still have one-tenth of the culturable area in the Wurdah valley district available for cultivation. There is accordingly in those districts a very extensive field open for future operations; and I have no doubt that, with better husbandry, the quality of the staple would be in general greatly improved. Either from scarcity of labour, or from some other cause, the cultivation of the cotton fields in the districts I have passed through does not receive any thing like the care and attention bestowed upon it in many parts of the Bombay Presidency, more especially as regards weeding and picking. In many instances there were no traces of any weeding at all having been effected, and it was very rarely indeed that the soil seemed to have cleared off the second and third crops of weeds.

Judging from my experience in these matters, and from what I have seen elsewhere, I believe that the cultivation of the American or New Orleans cotton might be successfully introduced into this Province, and I think that the failure hitherto experienced may be readily accounted for. In the first place, the period of sowing appears to have been much too late; and secondly, owing to erroneous instructions received in a printed Circular from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce (which was shown to me at Nagpore), the plants have been treated as perennials, which is a decided mistake. The cotton obtained from plants of the second and third year's growth becomes weak in the fibre in this climate, and consequently loses its market value; the seed is also deteriorated through this mode of cultivation, and the cotton subsequently obtained from it is weak, and comparatively valueless.

Notwithstanding the very superior quality of the cotton of the Wurdah valley, still I am of opinion that benefit would arise from the introduction of the New Orleans variety,—first, on account of the large increase of yield which it would furnish,

and secondly, the reason of its being, above all others, the description of cotton most in demand in the Home market, and consequently that which will always command the highest price.

Its introduction, however, if determined upon, must in the first instance be effected by the State, without reference to the cultivators. They cannot be expected to interest themselves to the extent required, or to give up their land to the production of an article respecting which they must at least feel doubtful, until they have had a fair opportunity of judging of its value.

To give the experiment a fair trial, five or six fields of ten acres each would suffice amply in the first instance, and these might be selected in different localities; at least one or two of them should be in the tracts mentioned in the Wurdah district near the banks of the river where the finest Native cotton was met with, and the seed should be sown and treated exactly in accordance with the method adopted with the Native variety in its neighbourhood, keeping in mind that early sowing will be probably most advantageous, and that proper weeding must be atttended to.

As New Orleans cotton cannot be separated from the seed by the Native Churka it will be necessary to obtain a saw gin. One of these machines will suffice for the produce of the above mentioned extent of land, and it can be sent from the Dharwar Factory.

Of the two varieties of cotton grown in this Province, namely "Bunnee" and "Jerree," one, the former, is sown in June, and picked in November and the two following months; the other, "Jerree," which is reputed to be the finest article, is sown in the end of August and picked in April, in this respect corresponding with the Dharwar season; and it might be advisable to try a small portion of the American seed at this latter season also; but it should be sown in the District where the "Jerree" is grown and, if possible, exactly at the same time, and in the close vicinity of that article, in order that both may be as much as possible exposed to the same advantages and disadvantages of season.

I ought to observe that in the event of American cotton being successfully introduced it would probably find its locality in the vicinity of the line of Railway, and in that case this country would have an advantage which Dharwar did not possess, namely, that of having the produce cleaned at the Establis ments which are being erected by European agency at the different stations on the line expressly for the purpose of cleaning and pressing

cotton. The grower would accordingly be saved the trouble and expense of providing his own gins. The cleaning machinery alludeed to is intended to supersede the use of the Curka, and will clan cotton of every variety.

The chief cotton marts visited during this tour were Hingunghat, Undoree, Deolee, Anjee, and Arvee. Of these Hingunghat is the most extensive, and its town is, I believe, the most populous in the Wurdah district. The appearance which the "Cotton gunge" presented was most striking and quite novel to me. From a distance the enormous piles of cotton heaped up to a point resembled an encampment of tents. These heaps occupy a clear open space outside the town; each merchant's yard having its own enclosure, inside of which is the shed, and in this shed crowds of women are occupied with the Churka, separating the wool from the seed.

The Churka used here is smaller than I have elsewhere seen. The rollers both of which are made of Khair wood, and about ten inches in length, slope towwards one end; the machine is worked by one person only; and a woman earns from four to five annas per day, turning out on the average from 6 to 7 lbs. of clean cotton: payment is made in coin.

The market, or weighing place, is surrounded by tiers of cotton packages; they cannot be called "Dhokras" or bales. These packages contain the cotton which has been cleaned in the outlying villages, and which is brought in by Marwarees and others for sale on delivery to the Cotton Merchants. The method of packing the cotton, for conveyance affords a striking illustration of the utter indifference that exists on the part of the people towards preserving their fine cotton, either from waste by the way, or from contact with dust and dirt of every description. A coarse net bag of hemp rope is the receptacle; these meshes vary from two to four, or even eight inches square, the cotton is trodden into it, and, of course, projects prominently through these meshes, and on its journey to market it is not only perfectly open to dust and moisture, but it is also subject to heavy contributions by every tree, bush, or twig that may happen to come in contact with it. I have repeatedly seen lumps of cotton which had been drawn out in this manner strewing the road. At and around the neighbouring stand there was a mixture of dust and pulverized cowdung several inches deep, over which these cotton bundles were carelessly rolled until they became of a color that made it difficult from a little distance to say what they contained. The actual loss from

waste, and the deterioration in value, caused by this careless mode of packing cannot be less than 15 to 12 per cent; yet, I fear, it will be a work of time to induce the village people to adopt any other mode of sending their cotton to market. Something, however, might be done to obviate the damage the cotton is exposed to on the spot, by having the whole of the cotton mart laid down with shingle or paved with round stones, as I observed done at other places. A proper weighing machine, such as that used at Railway stations, would also be an improvement upon the present primitive article, which consists of a rough beam suspended by a rope with a hook at one end and a basket at the other, stones being used as weights. This article not only gives rise to great waste of time in the operation of weighing, but it was said on the spot that the men who were employed on this duty had it in their power to favor the buyer or the seller to the extent of half a maund or more on each package.

Cotton here was brought and sold by the "Boja" of twelve maunds, each maund ten and a half seers (or 21 lbs.) It was mostly being sent to Mulkapore. An average cart-load was five bojas, and a hire of a cart was 45 Rupees. The Dokra here is called an "Uka"; two go to a boja; and each, as packed for the Bombay market, weighs about 137 lbs. Gunny bags are used for this final packing here, as elsewhere; but the operation was carelessly performed, and the seams of the bags were left so open that in the transit cotton might be abstracted and rubbish introduced without difficulty.

The two chief wants of this great cotton mart are, first, the means of cleaning cotton expeditiously by machinery instead of the Churka, and, secondly, some arrangement for better packing for cart transit.

Nothing as yet can be done for the former object, as the question of the best description of machine for cleaning Native cotton has yet not been determined. The matter is still under consideration, and as soon as it is settled I have no doubt that a cleaning establishment, under private enterprize, will find its way to Hingunghat. But as regards half-packing of cotton for cart transit, I should be inclined to recommend a trial of the wooden lever press which was recently constructed at the Dharwar Cotton Gin Factory. This Press has not yet been brought into general use, and its suitability for Native hands has yet to be proved; but, I believe, it will be found to answer and at least one such Press might be set up for trial. A cart

will carry at least one-third more cotton if half pressed in one of these Lever Presses, and the saving effected in cart hire would of itself no doubt induce the merchants and dealers to provide themselves with these Presses if they are found to answer.

The other cotton marts of this district are conducted precisely in the same manner as Hingunhat. At Deolee there are agents established for three Bombay Native houses, and I observed them openly engaged in mixing cotton of a superior and inferior quality in the same bag. At this mart also there was a much greater proportion of inferior cotton collected than at Hingunghat. I was told that this inferior cotton was bought cheap in Berar, and often came from great distances to be mixed and sent out bearing the names of those marts. The Berar villages mentioned, from which the inferior cotton is obtained, were Koora, Moongrul, Damuk, Tullaigaon, Yainkota—all more or less distant from Deolee. The market value of their cotton is from 25 to 30 per cent. less than the produce of the Nagpore Province, and the adulteration is therefore profitable. It might, I think, be suppressed to a considerable extent by being forbidden under a penalty.

The two descriptions of cotton, the superior and inferior, are distinguished from each other amongst Natives by the names "Ek Hathee" and "Do Hathee," which means cotton cleaned by a Churka worked by one person, or by two persons. All fine cotton is cleaned by the former, and it is the only article in use at Hingunghat and Deolee, whereas, as at Arvee, there was not a single one-handed Churka forthcoming · the machine there in use was worked by two persons, and differed from the other by having one of its rollers made of iron. All the cotton of Arvee, is, therefore, classed as "Do Hathee:" it is sent through Oomraotte to Jalgaon and Mulkapore, and its market value ranges from 12 to 20 per cent. below that of the cotton of the other marts named. The reason for employing a two-hand machine to clean Arvee cotton was stated to be due to the quantity of leaf and dirt mixed with the cotton when brought from the field, and this defect was said to be owing to scarcity of labor, which prevents cotton from being gathered until long after it had ripened and fallen to the ground. It thus absorbs dirt and leaves which were collected with it.

The yearly exports of this description of cotton from Arvee amounts to between seven and eight thousand bales: the dealers on the spot stated, however, that a great part of their cotton was brought from villages across the river in Berar, and especial-

ly named those of Koora, Mourchee Amla, Tullaigaon. Marwaree merchants and their agents at the head marts carry on their dealings through village dealers and Patels. Considerable cotton dealers do not make direct purchases from the cultivators; generally speaking, contracts are made through the agency of the local merchants before the picking season arrives. In the event of a fall in prices recourse is had to adulteration and admixture in order to avert loss.

To sum up then the results of my note, I would say that much of the soil of the Wurdah district which I have seen is quite equal to the best cotton growing soils of Dharwar or Guzerat.

Soil staple.

The cotton fibre grown in the tracts of the immediate valley of the Wurdah is quite equal to the very best indigenous cotton I have seen in any of the cotton tracts of Bombay.

Native soil.

But this excellent cotton does not reach the market in its best form, because the crop is not properly weeded, and when ripe is not properly picked, properly cleaned, properly cared for in the local cotton yard, or properly pack for export. Much of this neglect is owing to scarcity of labor.

Defects in the staple.

One main mode of remedying these defects will be the introduction of machinery for cleaning and packing. Machinery will not only ensure that the fibre shall be better cleaned and packed, but it will also set free, for picking and field work, many of the hands now employed in the clumsy and inefficient Native processes.

Improved machinery and appliances.

Such machinery will, no doubt, find its way up here by the Railway, and private parties will, in process of time, set up establishments at the chief marts and Railway stations, but whatever can be in the meantime done to secure these advantages will not only save time, but it will secure to the Hinghunghat cotton the permanence of its good name, which is now being jeopardized by the carelessness of cotton growers and cotton dealers.

Of all the causes which operate to spoil Wurdah valley cotton carelessness in picking is by far the greatest. I have positively seen during my tour almost as much cotton on the ground as on the plants; not only is much cotton irretrievably lost by this neglect, but the cotton which is afterwards picked up off the ground is stained, and stain is one of the chief faults of which the Lan-

Carelessness in picking.

cashire merchants complain. Any special steps that can be taken to ensure more care in this regard would be of the greatest value.

Carriage of cotton from fields to marts.

Next in importance is the necessity for more care in carrying cotton from the fields to the marts. The evils of this neglect have been described; but it is difficult to say how the people can be brought to appreciate the matter. An enlightened self-interest will teach them, and an intelligent European moving about among the people would do much to teach them, what is their interest. The only specific recommendation I can make is, that village producers should be induced to send their cotton to market in gunny bags instead of open nets.

Packing for cart transport.

The importance of half packing bales for cart transport has been adverted to, and I would here only repeat my recommendation that wooden "Lever Presses" be set up at every mart, if the first one erected be found to answer. But I do not anticipate that Native dealers will adopt these Presses for themselves until Government show them the way by setting such machines up and working them successfully.

Improvements of cotton marts.

The merchants who buy and export cotton should be taught to pave their yards, to warehouse their cotton, or store it with wicker baskets, instead of heaping it up in the open air. From its exposure to dust, storms, and rain, the cotton absorbs an amount of dust and damp in the merchants' yards which must deprecate its value most materially. The necessity for improved weighing machines has also been adverted to. But these are suggestions which can hardly be carried into effect without European superintendence and advice. So far my observations and suggestions have had reference to Native Cotton alone.

Introduction of Foreign Cotton.

My recommendations regarding the introduction of Foreign Cotton may be briefly summarized thus:—

Do not press foreign seed on the people. Let Government make experiments by sowing in selected fields, in good lands, acclimatized New Orleans Seed.

Let these experiments be watched by a European Officer, so that they may have fair play.

If they succeed, as I firmly believe they will, the people will soon find their advantage in sowing the foreign seed, and will readily buy it for themselves.

These are my principal suggestions, and not one of them can be carried but except through the influence and advice of intelligent European Officers; and some of them will require a small expenditure of money. The sooner these suggestions are carried into effect the better for the cotton tracts of Nagpore; but it is for the Government to decide whether the existing District Officials can give to the subject the attention it certainly merits.

A special Officer for these objects laboured for some years in Bombay before the advantages and improvements contemplated in this paper were achieved even in part. If such an Officer were appointed for a few (say four) years in Nagpore, though no direct revenue return would be the result, yet the material advantage to the country would, I predict, be immense.

Were these suggestions to be carried out, the yield of cotton from the valley of Wurdah would be more than doubled, and the value of every pound brought to market would be vastly enhanced. Even were the price of cotton in Europe to fall to the prices which ruled in 1858-59 cotton would still, if my suggestions are carried out, be a remunerative crop in the Wurdah valley.

(Signed) G. F. Forbes,
Cotton Commissioner.

Camp Arvee, the 14th January 1865.

Chief Commissioner's Orders on the Report by Dr. Forbes, Cotton Commissioner.

After reading Dr. Forbes' Memorandum, and talking it over with him, the subject appears to the Chief Commissioner to divide itself into two heads, viz :—

I.—The improvements and measures which Government Officers are to recommend to, and press upon, the Native producers of, and dealers in cotton.

II.—The improvements and measures with which Government ought to charge itself, or which Municipal bodies, acting under the advice of Government Officers, ought to undertake.

2. Under each of these heads, viz. Private action and Administrative action, Mr. Temple desires that each of the stages in the cultivation of, and traffic in, cotton be noticed as follows.

3. So far as indigenous cotton is concerned, there need be, and there can be, no direct administrative action. But the following canons of cotton culture may be recommended to, and pressed on, the cotton growers:—

Never sow cotton in the same field two years running. Never sow old cotton seed, but always seed from the last crop. Never so cotton seed in the same village where it was produced. Cotton growers of one village should exchange their seed with growers in a neighbouring village, so that a change of seed may be ensured, as is done in Dharwar. Regarding the time and manner of ploughing and sowing, the custom of the country is the best possible guide. On no account omit the first or the second weeding; even if labour be dear, the outlay on weeding is fully repaid by the enhanced yield of the crop. The use of the scarifier (bukkur) in weeding will be facilitated if cotton were planted in rows, as Toordal is planted. Weeding is much neglected in the Nagpore country, the plants are often choked, and the yield per acre immensely reduced.

More attention must be paid to picking the cotton. A large outlay at this stage will be fully repaid by the higher price which a well-picked crop fetches. At present, nearly as much cotton is picked off the ground as is picked off the bushes. Cotton fallen on the ground cannot but attract and collect into itself earth, dust, leaves, grass, and other foreign substances. One night's dew will wash the coloring matter of these substances into the cotton. It is very difficult to clean cotton picked off the ground; ordinary gins cannot do it; and no amount of ginning will remove the stains, which remain for ever a permament blemish. It is not possible to specify generally the number of pickings a crop ought to have, as its requirements differ with the season and the kind of crop. But it may safely be said that pickings should be more frequent than they are now.

Although administrative action is not necessary in respect to the culture of indigenous cotton, yet such action is absolutely necessary if an improved variety of cotton is to be introduced into the country. Two attempts, made in two successive years, to introduce foreign varieties have failed, mainly because the seed arrived too late, and was put into the ground a month too late; partially because the attempt was not made in a sufficiently systematic manner, and because the directions received from Bombay regarding the culture of the foreign seed were not adapted for the country.

This year Dr. Forbes has promised to make sure that 1,500 lbs. acclimatized New Orleans seed of this year's crop leave Dharwar in time to reach Mulkapore by the middle of May at latest. This seed will sow 150 acres, and is to be divided over fifteen experiments of 10 acres each. An experiment made over an area of less than 10 acres would not have a fair chance. The fields are to be selected for their fertility, and they are to be fileds in which cotton has not been grown for one year. No experiment is to be conducted at a distance of more than three miles from the residence of a Government Officer not below the rank of a Tehseeldar; those experiments being excepted the conduct of which is entrusted solely to selected Native landowners.

The spots having been selected, 100 lbs. of Dharwar seed is to be sown in each ten acre plot; the ploughing, harrowing, and sowing, is to be conducted in precisely the same manner as those stages of the cultivation are conducted by the people of the country with their own indigenous cotton; each process will be carefully gone through, and each plot will be visited as often as possible during each stage by the Officer superintending it.

The only peculiarity in the experiments is to be (as advised by Dr. Forbes) that in seven acres out of the ten the New Orleans seed is to be treated exactly as the seed of the "Bunee" or autumn variety of the indigenous cotton is treated, while in the remaining three acres of each experiment the seed is to be treated as the "Jerree" or spring variety. The object of this double experiment will be to ascertain whether New Orleans cotton here, as in Dharwar, should be treated as an autumn crop.

Before passing on to the other stage of the general subject, viz. the traffic in cotton, it will be well to follow out to their conclusion these experiments to be made by Government Officers.

After the cotton sprouts there are to be at least two weedings, each weeding to be conducted under the direction and superintendence of the Officer in charge: when the crop ripens there are to be at least four pickings and the cotton picked is to be stored in dry baskets. The weeders are to be paid at customary rates, and the pickers by the customary shares of the produce; but the quantities of cotton given to pickers is to be carefully weighed and noted. The whole of the produce is to be kept in a locked, dry place, until the Dharwar saw gin (which Dr. Forbes is to send up) comes round to each store and gins it.

Accurate accounts are to be kept by the Officer in charge of the costs of manuring, ploughing, sowing, &c.; watching or fen-

cing; weight of kupas (uncleaned cotton) given to pickers; weight of unginned residue after remunerating pickers; time and cost of labor in ginning; weight of cleaned cotton; weight of seed.

The cotton when cleaned, and the seed, are to be kept in large baskets in a dry covered place, under lock and key, until orders of authority regarding its disposal can be received. Every facility and encouragement to examine and compare with their own the New Orleans staple should be given to Native producers and dealers.

4. Each stage of the cultivation, &c. of the "Jerree," or spring crop, will be conducted at a different time to the corresponding stage of the "Bunnee" crop; it will, therefore, be easy to keep the accounts and the out-turns of the two crops separate.

5. The sketch of the proposed Government experiments in producing having been concluded, we must now revert to the stages which follow the production of Native cotton by Native producers:—

Directly after the picking comes the ginning, or process by which the fibre is separated from the seed, and from any extraneous matter that may have become entangled in or mixed up with the fibre. The only machines at present used for this purpose in the Wurdah valley or the single-handled and the double-handled wooden or iron double rollers (Churka). Each of these instruments, if skilfully worked by one woman, turns out from 6 to 8 lbs. of cotton in the day. This out-turn is very small, when the enormous amount to be cleaned be considered. When it is also considered that a gin in Dharwar, worked by a single man, turns out very nearly ten times this quantity in a day, it will be seen that there is great room for economizing labour and time in this matter of ginning. But Dr. Forbes states that as yet a simple machine, fit to be entrusted to common villagers and to be repaired by ordinary village craftsmen, has not been elaborated. There are machines which are used in factories and large concerns which clean three hundred pounds of cotton a day; but these machines are too complicated to be entrusted to village workmen. A very simple machine, worked by a treddle, which turns out, with the labor of one boy, 50 lbs. of cleaned cotton in a day, was sent up to Lahore in September last; but Dr. Forbes considers that this machine will very soon be further improved upon, and so he recommends that Government at present do nothing in the way of buying new gins, but only watch the experiments about to be conducted in Dharwar, so that

when the right machine is discovered it may be introduced into the Nagpore cotton fields. When discussing this subject of ginning machinery, Dr. Forbes specially deprecated misguided zeal in purchasing machinery. The amount of worse than useless ginning machinery introduced into Dharwar has been great, and would have been far greater had it not been for Dr. Forbes' special knowledge in this regard, which enabled him to caution the Officers of the Bombay cotton districts against the spurious and absolutely useless machinery so often pressed upon them. Such machinery has been bought on a small scale in some districts of the Central Provinces, and Deputy Commissioners must take care to consult, for the future, competent and expert Government Officers before they lay out any of the Local Funds at their command on ginning machinery. Though any extended action in the matter of getting improved gins is deprecated in the present state of the enquiry, yet it will be well to order one of the treddle gins above alluded to from Lahore; and all parties concerned or interested in the production of cotton must bear in mind that for New Orleans cotton the Native gin (Churka) is far far too weak. Saw gins from Dharwar must be obtained, and sold to producers and dealers, in proportion to the spread of New Orleans cotton over the Wurdah valley. It must also be remembered that Dharwar saw gins, though they are exactly suited to the long and strong New Orleans staple, are utterly unsuited to Native cotton, which they cut, tear up, and spoil.

The next stage to the cleaning is the carriage of clean cotton to the market town. No direct administrative action in this regard is possible; but the importance of, and the profit to be gained by, taking their cotton to market in gunny-bags, or in closed baskets, instead of in open net-work sacks, should be impressed on producers. Dr. Forbes has indicated the injury to the cotton, and consequent loss to the producer, which ensues from carrying cotton to market in open net-work bags along dusty roads, fringed by thorny bushes. The extra expense to the producer would be small, for he could always get his bags or baskets back after he has weighed out his cotton to the dealer.

When the cotton has reached the dealer's yards, there is much room for improvement in the way the dealers of the Nagpore cotton marts treat the cotton which they buy for export. They should be advised, and, if need be, helped, to floor their yards with stone or shingle, to stow their cotton in baskets or warehouses, instead of heaping it up in their yards exposed to dust, rain, and wind. They should be encouraged and induced to

adopt a better system of weighment. Standard weights are to be found in every bazar. Government and its Officers also can do a good deal in this regard. The ground on which cotton yards stand usually belong to the Municipality of the town, and lies within the local limits of the Municipal Committee's jurisdiction. These Committees can pave with slabs of stone, or with shingle, all the cotton yards, and charge a small ground rent on them. They can buy, and enforce by their Bye-laws the use of, patent weighing stands for weighing the cotton. They can by their Bye-laws prohibit and impose penalties on the admixture or adulteration of cotton, and they can provide for the ejection from their markets of any trader or dealer who may be guilty of admixture or adulteration of cotton. All these improvements can be introduced or enforced by Municipal Committees, who hold their sittings under the supervision of the chief Executive of their District, and who will, it is expected, soon be vested with the legal power of making Bye-laws for the regulation of their towns and markets.

But, before the cotton for export actually leaves these Provinces, one more stage has to be gone through; that stage is the pressing and packing. Dr. Forbes has pointed out how these two stages are compressed into one by the dealers of the Wurdah valley; how cotton is put into imperfectly sewn bags, and trodden down by men. The traders themselves could easily sew their bags more completely; and doubtless they would do so if the evil result of the present half-sewn bags were pointed out to them.

But as regards Presses for pressing cotton, the Government and its Officers must lead the way. Wooden Lever Presses, such as those described by Dr. Forbes, must be set up at each cotton mart by the Local Committees: in order that such Presses may be made up here, a model Press, one-quarter the real size, is now, by the kindness of His Excellency the Governor, being made at Bombay, and there is some hope that Dr. Forbes may be able to spare from Dharwar a ready-made full sized Lever Press. The great simplicity of these machines, and their cheapness, are their chief recommendations. They press the same weight of cotton to exactly half the size it can be reduced by simple treading. As the bulk, and not the weight, of an up-country cotton bale is the great difficulty in the way of its carriage, the immediate saving from the use of these Presses will be at once apparent to the most conservative classes of Native traders.

To sum up then, Government is to recommend to producers that they be more careful in selecting land for cotton crops; that

they do not (so to speak) sow in and in; that they be careful in weeding their cotton fields; that they pick their cotton more frequently and more carefully; that they keep their cotton, when picked, in baskets, safe from dust and rain; that in carting their cleaned cotton to market they secure it from dust, rain, and wastage by the way. Government is to recommend to dealers that they warehouse their cotton; that they pave their yards; that they adopt a better system of weighing; that they adopt a better system of packing. Government Officers, or Municipal bodies acting under their orders, are to undertake experiments for testing the suitability of acclimatized Dharwar New Orleans cotton to the Wurdah cotton fields, and to take all precautions and measures for making the experiment complete and conclusive; to procure one specimen of an experimental treddle cotton gin sent to Lahore, and to keep a close watch on the experiments now about to be made at Dharwar with all the known kinds of ginning machines; to prepare cotton yards on the lands and market places belonging to Municipal bodies; to pass bye-laws for the prevention of cotton trade frauds within the local limits of such lands and market places; to provide patent weighing machines; to obtain a Lever Press from Bombay; and to make and erect such Presses at all chief cotton marts.

Having thus defined what is to be done, it remains to consider how to do it.

Dr. Forbes is clearly of opinion that a separate Government Officer should be appointed who should give his undivided attention to the prosecution of these measures. But as the cotton area of the Central Provinces is at present comparatively inconsiderable, and as most of what is to be done will he done in the Wurdah valley, it may be well to consider whether the existing district agency could not undertake the business. Could the Deputy Commissioner and his Tehseeldars manage it? It hardly seems that their multifarious duties would allow them to devote sufficient attention to enable them within a few months to do, and get done, all that is mentioned in this note. Can another Civil Officer (an Assistant Commissioner) be deputed to Wurdah, and his attention directed to cotton alone? Such an Assistant Commissioner might be sent, but at present among the available Assistant Commissioners there is no Officer particularly suited for this peculiar duty. The other Public Officers in Wurdah are the District Superintendent of Police and the Apothecary. Of these, the former could not spare time from his other duties to prosecute this subject as it should be prosecuted; the latter would not possess sufficient weight with the people. But if a

selected Civil Assistant Surgeon were posted to Wurdah, in place of the Apothecary, the Officer so sent could devote a great deal of time and attention to cotton without neglecting his regular business.

"By order,"
(Signed) C. BERNARD,
Secy. to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.
Chief Commissioner's Office, Nagpore, 16th Feb. 1865.

No. 3344.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Letter from Dr. G. F. Forbes, Cotton Commissioner, No. 99, dated 7th July 1865—Submitting a report upon the distribution of Cotton seed and the other measures undertaken by him during last season (viz., that of 1864-65) for extending the cultivation of the American or New Orleans variety of Cotton from the acclimatized seed of Dharwar, and also for the introduction of it into other Provinces.

RESOLUTION.—Copies of this report should be transmitted to the Secretary of State, the Government of India, the Manchester Cotton Supply Association, and to the Chambers of Commerce at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Kurrachee. A copy of it should also be placed on the Editor's table.

2. The suggestions contained in paragraphs 20 to 34 are approved, and should be acted on.

3. The acknowledgments of Government are due to Dr. Forbes for the successful manner in which he has conducted the operations now reported on, and for the ingenuity and skill he has shown in the invention of the Lever Press. If Dr. Forbes' expectations are fulfilled, the introduction of this machine will exercise a most beneficial effect on the Cotton trade of the country.

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,
Under Secretary to Government.
Bombay Castle, 3rd August 1865.

To The OFFICER in CHARGE of the COTTON COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
The COMMISSIONER in SIND,
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER N. D.,
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER S. D.,
The COMMISSIONER of CUSTOMS, SALT, and OPIUM,
The ACCOUNTANT GENERAL,
The INSPECTOR-IN-CHIEF COTTON DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER of COMMERCE.

SIR,—I beg to forward for the inspection of the Chamber a sample of Sea Island Cotton, the first picking of the year's crop, grown on the Kandeish Farm. It has been cleaned on Platt Brothers patent gins.

Owing to small monsoon fall of rain and the succeeding drought, the crop has been somewhat injured. Had it been irrigated the field would have been heavier and the staple improved. A few seeds fell by chance into a neighbouring surgar-cane field, which is constantly watered, and have grown into large healthy plants with about two hundred bolls on each, and the promise of many more forming. The land is black cotton soil with a subsoil of stiff clay.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM A. KERR.

Bombay, 25th November 1864.

No. 171 OF 1864.

To W. A. KERR, Esq.,
Manager Kandeish Farming Company.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 25th ultimo, accompanied by a sample of the Sea Island Cotton grown on the Khandeish Farm.

The cotton has been on view at the office of the Chamber, and at the General Meeting held on Thursday last, was inspected by many of the members present and very highly approved.

The Committee of the Chamber have directed me to report to you as the result of their examination of the cotton, that they find the staple long, but rather soft and fluffy : of good colour, clean and well prepared.

They consider the cotton worth about 2d. per lb. more than fair Dhollera.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, December 5th 1864.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,

Secretary Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I beg to hand you herewith a small sample of cotton, together with a few bolls, and the seed remaining from the ginned cotton.

This cotton is from Egyptian seed. It was grown in Goa, under the direction of Mr. Charles Kay, a Scotch agriculturist, formerly a cotton planter in Egypt. It has been grown under every disadvantage, being planted in a rough grass field, not broken up till August, nor then deeply cultivated. It was also planted too late (September) as the monsoon finished unusually early, and, beside it was much exposed to land wind, which this year has been unusually violent. It has had no manure, but has been irrigated. The plants are thickly covered with bloom, and are as fine plants as can be seen anywhere.

By the advice of Dr. Forbes, I also tried Peruvian, which is equally thrifty with the other, but, as it is only just showing bloom, I am unable to submit a specimen but will do so later, if desired.

The object in making this experiment which I was obliged to confine to three acres, has been to discover the amount of truth in the popular belief that a good staple cannot be produced in the Concan. If your Chamber approve the staple of this, it will be a great encouragement to extend operations.

Of course, from the nature of this experiment, I cannot estimate the cost with precision; but, if grown on a sufficient scale, and where irrigation is suitable, and the yield be equal to the average of Dharwar, I should say a quality better than this might be produced for 4d. per lb., I mean in Goa, where cheap labor and water carriage materially reduce the cost of agricultural productions.

Will you be so kind as to take the opinion of the Chamber on the sample, and to forward it to me at this address. If you are unable to do so before Saturday, (when I shall have left) kindly send to Dr. Geo. Birdwood, Victoria Gardens.

You will confer a favor by returning the sample to Messrs.

John Barrett and Co., who will forward it to the Colonial Minister, Lisbon, with a copy of the Chamber's report.—I am, your's very obediently,

(Signed) EDWARD GASSETT.

Hope Hall Hotel, March 21st 1865.

P. S.—It has been ginned by the American gin sold by Messrs. Ward and Warland. Will the Chamber be good enough to report as to whether it has been well ginned and with or without injury to fibre, also the present value of staple like sample.

No. 45 OF 1865.

To EDWARD GASSETT, Esq.,
Hope Hall Hotel, or care of Dr. G. Birdwood,
Victoria Gardens, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, together with a sample of Cotton grown in Goa from Egyptian seed, and had the pleasure of laying both before the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce at their meeting yesterday.

In reply I am now directed to inform you that the Committee consider the sample laid before them as unusually excellent. The cotton is of good staple, very clean and nice, very well ginned, and the staple in no way injured in the ginning process. It is not easy at present to estimate the market value of the cotton but it is worth 2d. per lb. more than fair Dhollera. The Committee consider that if cotton of as good quality as the sample submitted for their inspection could be produced in the Concan in any considerable quantity at the price you mention, it would have a most beneficial influence on the improvement of the cotton cultivation in this part of India.

The Committee desire me to state that they would be glad to see a sample of the cotton produced from Peruvian seed, when it may be convenient for you to send it.

And with the acknowledgments of the Committee for the excellent sample that has been submitted to them.—I remain, dear Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 25th March 1865.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—We beg to send herewith two samples of sawginned Dharwar cotton and two samples of seed marked "S. F. & D." and "Government."

They represent the work done by two sawgins of 18 saws each; the one marked "Government" being cleaned by a gin from the Government Gin Factory at Dharwar and the other mark by a private gin. The seed is sent in each case and we shall be glad to have the report of the Chamber on the cotton and seed with a view of ascertaining the merits of the two gins, more particularly as to injury to staple, cleanliness, &c.,—We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

(Signed) W. NICOL & Co.

Bombay, 21*st April* 1865.

No. 80 OF 1865.

Messrs. W. NICOL, & Co., Bombay,

GENTLEMEN,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, together with two samples of sawginned Dhawar cotton and two samples of seed marked respectively "S. F. & D. and "Government," of all which I have had the pleasure of submitting to the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce.

In reply I am directed to inform you that the Committee find the sample marked "Government" to be ordinary Dharwar saw-ginned; weak and short in staple. The other sample marked "S. F. & D." is considered rather better.

The Committee do not consider either sample well ginned.—I am gentlemen, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 29th April 1865.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary Chamber of Commerce.

DEAR SIR,—We have received from P. M. Dalzell, Esq., Kurrachee, samples of cotton, grown near Candahar, from Egyptian seed, sent to him by us; and he requests us to submit the same to the Chamber of Commerce for their opinion as to its quality.

For this purpose we herewith hand you the specimens and perhaps you will be good enough to carry out his wishes, by obtaining from the Chamber, a report on the same, which we will transmit to him without delay.—We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) PEEL, CASSELS & Co.,
Hon. Agents Cotton Supply Association.

Bombay, 5th May 1865.

No. 88 OF 1865.

Messrs. PEEL, CASSELS & Co., Bombay.

DEAR SIRS,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, together with a sample of cotton from Egyptian seed grown near Candahar, which I had the pleasure of submitting to the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce at their Meeting held this day.

In reply I am directed to state that the sample was thought highly of on the whole: the color is considered dull, but the staple is good: as the sample, however, was not cleaned the market value of the cotton cannot be satisfactorily determined.—I am, dear Sirs, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, May 12th 1865.

No 200 OF 1865.

From the INSPECTOR in CHIEF COTTON DEPARTMENT,

To A. C. GUMPERT, Esq.,

Chairman Chamber of Commerce, Bombay,

SIR,—I have the honor to forward extract copy of a letter from Captain Moore, Inspector of Cotton Ahmedabad, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, together with the samples of cotton therein mentioned, which I have personally examined.

2nd. The Chamber will see that Captain Moore takes an interest in the question of improving the quality of cottou, generally in Guzerat. As Government has sanctioned, in Resolution No. 2163, dated 20th ultimo, the expenditure from the Cotton Improvement Fund, of sums of money, for the purchase of superior descriptions of seed, to be supplied to the ryots at the price of their own indigenous variety, I have not the smallest doubt myself, that, by next sowing season, there will be a very considerable increase in the cultivation of better cotton, both exotic and indeginous throughout the country at large; already this year have 30,000 maunds of good Berar seed been distributed amongst the ryots of Khandeish, through the exertions of Mr. Ashburner, the Collector, and Mr. Hewett, the Inspector of cotton. In Scinde, the Inspector has been most energetic in his endeavours to improve the quality of the staple, and though it was impossible to effect much in Scinde this year, owing to the sowing season there being so much earlier than elsewhere. I have every hope that Mr. Hughes's efforts will bear good fruit next year,—

* * * * * *

I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) HARRINGTON BULKLEY,
Inspector in Chief Cotton Department.

Bombay, 12*th June* 1865

Extract of a letter No. 10 of 11th April 1865. From Captain A. T. Moore, Cotton Inspector for Ahmedabad and Khaira, to the Inspector in Chief Cotton Department.

I saw samples of American and Egyptian Cotton, both raised with great care by the Manager, on a piece of ground near the factory. Both he and the European Official,—whose name I did not obtain, informed me, that they were of opinion that the Egyptian Cotton could be raised with less care and trouble than the American, and was a surer crop whilst the Cotton, such as the sample of the Egyptian raised by him, would always fetch from 3 to 4 pence per pound more than the native cotton.* Mr. Mahadoo Lall said he could afford to pay that much more for it, than for the native cottons grown in the vicinity; and these, you are aware, are of a superior quality, both as regards texture and staple.

The American cotton, sample of which I also send, was condemned, by both my informants, Mr. Mahadoo Lall certainly admitted that it might be a bad sample, but they had received the seed from the Chamber of Commerce, and done their best in its cultivation; at any rate both samples were grown under the same auspices, and the Egyptian speaks for itself. Another objection raised to the American cotton, besides the very serious one of inferiority in quality, and staple,—was that it bore much more the character of an exotic, than the Egyptian, which from the similarity of climates, &c., might almost be considered indegenous.

My European informant further stated that the American plant could not be relied on, for giving good healthy seed for future crops, if this be the case, it alone would, I should imagine, be sufficient to condemn the American. To support this evidence, we may adduce the quotations from the Liverpool Cotton Market, where Egyptian runs up to 19d. per lb., when Dhollera is dull, or to say the least of it quiet, Egyptian in fact I am informed can hold its own against all but the best American, Mr. Mahadoo Lall further informed me that in addition to being able and willing to purchase it (the Egyptian) at 3d. to 4d. per lb. higher than any country cottons, he could spin it as high as (60s') sixties, whilst the country cotton he could only spin up to (30s') thirties, I do myself the honor of reporting all this as the information here received is from eminently practical men.

The European had been part owner in a spinning establishment at home in England: one of those small "Co-operative

* Superintendent of the Factory.

Mills" which could not stand the test of the "hard times," at the commencement of the American war, when cotton rose so enormously in price.

It seems from the above, that Egyptian would be a far more sure, and paying crop than American. Should the seed be procurable in Bombay, it might be advisable to give some gratis from the Cotton Fund to a few respectable cultivators in the neighbourhood of Ahmedabad, with a view to testing it on a large and convencing scale.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. T. MOORE,
Inspector of Cotton, Ahmedabad.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) HARRINGTON BULKLEY,
Inspector in Chief Cotton Department.

No. 104 OF 1865.

To H. BULKLEY, Esq.,
Inspector in Chief Cotton Department, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 200, dated 2nd instant, together with copy of extract from a letter of Captain Moore's, Inspector of Cotton Ahmedabad and the two samples of cotton therein referred to.

In reply I am to inform you that the Committee have heard with much satisfaction of the experiments for the improvement of our cotton cultivation detailed in Captain Moore's report, and they trust that your expectations, "of a very considerable increase in the cultivation of better cotton both exotic and indigenous throughout the country at large" by next sowing season will be realised. * * * * * *

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber Commerce, 19th June, 1865.

APPENDIX L.

THE WORKING OF THE COTTON FRAUDS ACT.

No. 134 of 1864.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To E. RAVENSCROFT, Esq.,

Officiating Secretary to Government, Bombay,

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce respectfully to inquire, whether it is the intention of Government to issue any report on the working of the Cotton Frauds Act which came into operation on the 1st of February last, and, if so, when it is expected the report will be made public?

A strong feeling exists amongst the Merchants of Bombay regarding the Act and its practical working, but the Committee forbear taking any action in the matter, before being placed in possession of all the information the Bombay Government may have to give on the subject.—I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 21st October 1864.

No. 4313 of 1864.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,

Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—With reference to your letter, No. 134, dated the 21st ultimo, I am directed by the Hon'ble the Governor in Council to state, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, that the Inspector in Chief, Cotton Department, has been directed to furnish a full report at the close of the year, and that a copy of this report will be furnished for the information of the Chamber.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

Enquiring whether it is the intention of Government to issue any report on the working of the Cotton Frauds Act.

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,
Offg. Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 2nd November, 1864.

No. 29 of 1865.

To F. S. CHAPMAN, Esq.,

Acting Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to a letter which I had the honour of addressing to Government on the 21st October last inquiring whether it was the intention of Government to issue any report on the working of the Cotton Frauds Act and the reply thereto dated 2nd November, in which it was stated "that the Inspector in Chief, Cotton Department, had been directed to furnish a full report at the close of the year and that a copy should be duly furnished for the information of the Chamber :—"

I am now directed by the Committee again respectfully to inquire, whether this report is ready, and, if so, whether a copy is available for the Chamber in view of a general meeting of the members to be held next week, when the consideration of the working of the Cotton Frauds Act will form part of the general proceedings.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber Commerce, 6th March 1865.

No. 967 of 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,

Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of yesterday's date, I am directed to forward herewith a printed copy of the Resolution of Government on the report by the Inspector in Chief, Cotton Department, regarding the working of the Cotton Frauds Act and to state that Mr. Bulkley has been authorized to furnish the Chamber with his office copy of the report in question which has not yet been printed,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) F. S. CHAPMAN,

Officiating Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 7th March 1865.

RESOLUTION.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is glad to find that the introduction of the Cotton Frauds Act has been attended with such beneficial results, and that the Bombay Chamber of Commerce has recorded in such favorable terms its opinion of the officers appointed by Government to carry out the law. When answers are received from the English Chambers of Commerce, Mr. Bulkley should at once furnish Government with copies.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the alterations and additions to the scales of salaries proposed in Appendix E, the sanction for the salary of Inspector for the Hubshee's territories still holding good. Government are not inclined to place secret service money at the disposal of the officers appointed under Act IX. of 1863, as suggested by Mr. Bulkley, for the purpose of rewarding informers; but His Excellency the Governor in Council will be ready to receive applications for, and promptly to sanction the grant of, special rewards from the cotton improvement fund, when special services have been rendered. This disposes also of the proposal made in paragraph 26 of Mr. Bulkley's Report.

3. The subjects discussed in paragraph 27 belong more properly to the department presided over by Dr. Forbes, and Government will gladly receive any specific propositions from that officer having for their object the improvement of the staple, and requiring for their successful execution an advance from the cotton frauds fund. Mr Bulkley should put himself into com-

munication with Dr. Forbes, so that Government may derive the benefit to be obtained from their joint suggestions. It should, however, be clearly understood that Dr. Forbes' duties are to improve the condition of cotton and cotton-cleaning machinery generally; whilst those of Mr. Bulkley and his subordinates are to carry out the provisions of Act IX. of 1863.

4. The recommendations for grants for pecuniary rewards made in paragraph 30 of Mr. Bulkley's Report are sanctioned. The sums mentioned should be paid forthwith out of the cotton improvement fund.

5. Printed copies of this Resolution, and the documents on which it is framed, should be sent to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce and be placed in the Editors' Room. Spare copies should also, as requested, be sent to the Inspector in Chief.

Ordered that copies of the above be forwarded to

The COMMISSIONER of CUSTOMS, SALT, and OPIUM.
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER, N. D.
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER, S. D.
The INSPECTOR in CHIEF COTTON DEPARTMENT.
Dr. G. F. FORBES.
The POLITICAL DEPARTMENT of the SECRETARIAT.
The JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT of the SECRETARIAT.

No. 1147 OF 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward herewith for the information of the Chamber of Commerce six (6) printed copies of the extract from the Proceedings of this Government relative to the report on the general results of the working of the Cotton Frauds Act during the past year,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

No. 699 dated 20th February 1865.

(Signed) F. S. CHAPMAN,
Officiating Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 18th March 1865.

No. 699.

EXTRACT *from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Revenue Department, dated 20th February* 1865.

Read the following papers :—

Letter from Harrington Bulkley, Esq., the Acting Inspector in Chief Cotton Department, to E. W. Ravenscroft, Esq., Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, No. 73, dated 10th February 1865, with accompaniments.

In accordance with instructions contained in Government Resolution No. 4149, of 20th October last, I do myself the honour to submit a Report on the general results of the working of the Cotton Frauds Act during the past year.

2. Bombay Act IX. of 1863 came into operation on the 1st February last year, and the department for carrying out its provisions was organised as specified below—

Locality.	Designation.	Date of Appointment.	Remarks.
For the Town and Harbour of Bombay.	1 Chief Inspector ...	7th February 1864.	
	1 Sub-Inspector.....	25th January 1864.	
	1 Sub-Inspector.....	1st April 1864.	
	1 Sub-Inspector.....	8th April 1864.	Appointed Income Tax Commissioner 8th October, and Acting Collector of Bombay 9th November 1864.
For Dharwar and Belgaum Collectorates.	1 Inspector	24th December 1863.	
	1 Sub-Inspector stationed at the port of Coompta.	23rd January 1864...	Transferred as Sub-Inspector to Bombay 1st April 1864.
For Khandeish Collectorate.	1 Inspector.....	12th January 1864.	
For Ahmedabad & Kaira Collectorates.	1 Inspector.....	14th March 1864.	Transferred as Acting Chief Inspector, Bombay, on 4th October 1864.
	1 Sub-Inspector for Ahmedabad City.	21st November 1864.	
	1 Sub-Inspector for Dhollera.	30th November 1864.	
	1 Sub-Inspector for Gogo.	26th November 1864.	
For Surat & Broach Collectorates.	1 Inspector.....	23rd April 1864.....	Mr. Hearn was appointed Inspector in December 1863, but never joined.
	1 Preventive Inspector for the River Taptee.	26th April 1864.....	The Preventive Establishments were employed up to the 1st June, and subsequently from 7th and 21st October respectively to the end of the year.

Locality.	Designation.	Date of Appointment.	Remarks.
	1 Preventive Inspector for the River Nurbudda.	24th April 1864.	
For the Province of Scind.	1 Inspector.....	17th January 1864.	Establishment not fully organised until the month of March last.
For the Collectorate of Canara.	1 Inspector.....	22nd October 1864.	
For the Collectorate of Ahmednuggur, Sholapore, and Sattara.	1 Inspector.....	19th October 1864.	
For the Territory of H. H. the Hubshees.	1 Preventive Inspector.	12th March 1864.	Establishment maintained throughout the year.

3. From the above statement it will be seen that in some of our chief cotton-producing districts and shipping ports* the agency of this department was not fully established, on its present footing, until late in the season; this, of course, was unavoidable, but the fact should not be lost sight of, tending, as it does, to depreciate the results of the past year's operations.

4. Appendix A contains full particulars of the cost of the establishment maintained during the year under review. Column 8 embraces every item of expenditure, exclusive of pay and travelling allowances; some of which—such as charges incurred in setting on foot the several offices—will not be incurred again, for some time to come at least. Adverting to Appendix B of the Chief Cotton Inspector's letter No. 18 of 1864, dated 18th February last, I find that Mr. Ravenscroft estimated the receipts and expenditure from 1st February 1864 to 31st January 1865 inclusive as below—

Bales exported from Bombay Presidency		12,00,000
Fees on above.....	Rs.	3,00,000
Press license fees, fines, and sale proceeds of confiscated cotton, under Act IX. of 1863	„	20,000
Total.....	Rs.	3,20,000
Total expenditure.....	„	1,21,800
Balance at credit.....	Rs.	1,98,200

* Bombay, Surat, and Broach, Carwar, Coompta, Sholapore, and Ahmedabad.

The actual exports on which fees were levied last year fall short of Mr. Ravenscroft's estimate by 3,27,902 bales, and the receipts by Rs. 81,974-12-8, whilst the expenditure is less by Rs. 14,404-1-10: but it must be borne in mind that my predecessor's calculations were framed for a whole year, whereas my returns embrace only the last 11 months of 1864, in addition to which the great depression in the export trade which occurred during the months of October and November last, and the increase to the agency of the department, subsequent to the date of Mr. Ravenscroft's letter, above quoted, account, in a great measure, for the discrepancy in his estimate. Judging from the large increase in the exports of the past month, and taking into consideration the quantity of last year's cotton still in the country, I am of opinion, that Mr. Ravenscroft's estimate, but for the disturbing circumstances adverted to, would have been very nearly verified. As it is, the cotton improvement fund possesses a surplus of Rs. 1,13,040-3-4, which will allow of a large margin for future expenditure.

Number of bales estimated by Mr. Ravenscroft			12,00,000
Actual exports			8,72,098
Deficit			3,27,902
Amount of fees estimated	Rs.	3,00,000	0 0
Amount realised	„	2,18,025	3 4
Deficit		81,974	12 8

5. Appendix B is a comparative statement of the area and produce of land under cotton cultivation in this Presidency during the past and current years. Except in cases where I have received official returns of the anticipated crops, as, per example, from the Collector of Poona and the Cotton Inspector for Scind, I have estimated the yield at rates varying from 30 to 50 lbs. per acre of cleaned indigenous cotton, and 70 to 100 lbs. of exotic; having been informed that these may be accepted as fair averages—in any case, as the same standard is applied to the out-turn of both years, the relative produce has been correctly calculated. The necessary additions and deductions have been made, in this year's results, in accordance with the "data" furnished me in the Mofussil Return. The season seems to have been favourable to cotton cultivations in Dharwar, Belgaum, and Kulladghee, particularly the first named Collectorate, where, though the actual area cultivated both with indigenous and exotic cotton falls short of 1864 by 61,559 acres, the anticipated yield will exceed last year's by 4,079,688 lbs. The Collectorates of Belgaum and Kulladghee exhibit a slight increase of yield, although there is a deficit in the area under cultivation. In the other Collectorates

of the Presidency, with the exception of Surat and Broach and the Sub-Collectorate of Sholapore, from which returns have not yet been received, the season has not been so favourable to the crop, although a considerable increase will be observed in the area cultivated this year. Taking into consideration the great extent of land sown with cotton, during the present year, not only in this Presidency but also in the Punjaub, the N. W. Provinces, Berar and elsewhere, the exports, as compared with last year, will, in spite of the unfavourable season, be greatly augmented.

6 Appendix C is a summary of convictions in cases tried under Act IX. during the past year. The comparative small number of these, indicates the beneficial results attained by the introduction of the Act; and these are confirmed by the testimony of the officers of the department, and the licensees of presses, and merchants here, regarding the generally improved condition of the cotton exported from Bombay since Act IX. came into operation. The absence of complaints on the part of shippers, is a gratifying proof of the decrease of fraudulent adulteration.

7. In Appendix D is a statement of the number of presses established throughout the Presidency. It is satisfactory to observe the gradual, but steady, extension of English machinery in the Mofussil. The introduction of a superior description of gins and presses up-country, will not only vastly improve the condition of the cotton sent down to Bombay for export, but will also, in a great measure, check the thefts and frauds that are at present perpetrated during the course of transit. Last year, great inconvenience and loss were experienced, owing to the want of accommodation along the G. I. P. Railway for ware-housing the large supplies of cotton sent for transmission to the Presidency, but since then the Company have greatly extended their accommodation for goods traffic, along the line, as I myself observed during my tour in Khandeish in November last.

8. I will now enter somewhat into detail regarding the past year's operations, and discuss the measures which, in my opinion, should be adopted for giving still further effect to the provisions of Act IX. In June last my predecessor reported to Government, that the result of the measures instituted for carrying out the provisions of Act IX. was eminently successful, that they had not been found oppressive in practice, and that he was informed by competent judges, that the cotton reaching Bombay continued to improve in quality. These statements were founded, not only on the reports of the officers employed in the Cotton Frauds Department, and some of the Collectors up-country, but also on

the testimony of the licensees of presses, at the Presidency, and the opinions of the members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. The quality of the staple remained, of course, in pretty much the same condition as before; the Act taking cognisance only of fraudulent adulteration, and in no way regulating the description of cotton cultivated for the market. Mr. Ravenscroft had, in the previous month, addressed letters to the Secretaries of the Chambers of Commerce at home, requesting to be informed of the condition of the cotton imported into England subsequent to the introduction here of Act IX. This information, which would have been very valuable, and indeed necessary in determining the measure of success attending our efforts, has not been supplied, although in October last I wrote and reiterated a request for an answer to my predecessor's letter.* On handing over to myself charge of the office of Chief Inspector of Cotton in the month of October last, Mr. Ravenscroft, after testifying to the cordial assistance he had received and the discretion exhibited by all the officers employed under him, goes on to state in paragraph 3 of his letter No. 321, to the address of the Secretary to Government Revenue Department—"On 30th of last month the annual meeting of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce was held, many of the members of which Chamber were, as His Excellency is aware, much opposed to Act IX. of 1863. Amongst the measures discussed at the meeting, was the Act in question, and I have no doubt that Government will be gratified by the perusal of the following portion of the report read by their able Chairman, Mr. Grant, who, when the law was first framed, was its most uncompromising opponent."

COTTON ADULTERATION.

"The correspondence bearing on the Cotton Frauds Act (Act IX. of 1863) is somewhat voluminous, but will repay perusal, evidencing, as it does, the great interest taken in the subject by the leading members of the Bombay Civil Service and the commercial body generally,

"The Act has been brought into operation with great caution and discrimination, and no complaints of undue pressure or harshness have been brought to the notice of your Committee. The general quality † of the cotton brought to market, does

* Since writing this, a letter has been received from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Glasgow. I will do myself the honor to report further on this subject hereafter.

† Mr. Ravenscroft begs to mention that all the Act empowers Inspectors to do, is to interfere with fradulent adulteration.

not show much improvement in staple or cleanliness, but there is a very marked improvement in the general freedom from seed and wilful adulteration which had become so growing an evil previous to the passing of the Act. Your Committee consider that the officers entrusted with the administration of an Act so likely to cause irritation, deserve the greatest credit for the judgment exhibited in bringing it into operation.

"Considerable discussion took place relating to the robberies in the Broach and Surat rivers, but without any practicable result. There have, however, been no complaints of late, and it is, therefore, probable that the discussion has lead to increased vigilance on the part of the existing police authorities in those districts.*

"No report has yet been issued by the Commissioner under the Act, and the Committee are, therefore, unable to ascertain the cost of working it; their only guide to this is an estimate furnished by the Commissioner which fell far short of the probable produce of the tax of 4 annas per bale. Seeing that, by the Act, 4 annas per bale is fixed as a maximum charge, the committee are of opinion that if the actual expenses agree at all with the estimate, the rate might well be reduced to something more in proportion to the cost of working the measure."

9. I am happy to have it in my power to state that, in spite of the disadvantages under which this department has laboured to a certain extent, and which have been referred to in paragraph 3 of my present communication, I have every reason to believe that, owing to the exertions of the Mofussil Inspectors, the cotton crop of the present year will be found to be far superior, both in regard to cleanliness and freedom from fraudulent adulteration, to that of last year. The reports I have recently received from up-country, are in the highest degree favourable, and indicate not only greater care on the part of the villagers in cultivating their crops, but also in districts where inferior cotton is grown, a general desire to obtain a superior description of seed if possible. Mr. Hewett, the Inspector of Khandeish, after testifying to the general beneficial results of the Act in his districts, goes on to say—

"Indeed in such dread was the Act and supervision of its officers held that where dealers were supplied with dirtier cotton than usual, the bales were immediately rejected, the purchaser

* Mr. Ravenscroft begs to remind Government that a strict surveillance was maintained in these rivers by watchmen paid out of the Cotton Frauds Fund, and to this the change is doubtless attributable.

at once employing the Act against the seller, by informing or threatening to inform against the latter; a most healthy tone was thus infused into the trade at once, showing that the Act was perceptibly working good against adulteration and want of care in sending cotton into the market."

Mr. Hughes, the Inspector for Scind, after mentioning that about 20 cases had been investigated, in which cotton had been brought for compression in an exceedingly dirty and adulterated condition, proceeds thus: "As in every case not only was ignorance of the existence of the Act pleaded, but a desire shown to at once remove all such cotton without delay from the press premises, and as I believed that the framers of the Act intended that the offering of such cotton should be of a fraudulent or dishonest character, and that simple negligence on the owner's part was not intended to be penal, I considered it needless to bring any one of these cases into a Magistrate's court. Since August last two cases only of a similar nature have come under my cognisance, and I feel persuaded that more pains are now being bestowed upon the examinations of cotton previous to sending it to the presses for compression." Mr. Hughes also reports that whereas in 1863 a little over 36,000,000 lbs, of cotton "*in bulk*" were sent to Bombay from Kurrachee, less than half that amount was forwarded last year, in consequence of which there exists "a lesser liability to the extensive adulteration at Bombay of Oomrawuttee and Dhollera cottons with the better sorts of Scind, which has been so much complained of by English merchants generally. The increasing facilities for pressing cotton at Kurrachee, for direct export to Europe, will in course of time it is to be hoped, entirely supersede the trade in unpressed cotton, now carried on in country craft between Kurrachee and Bombay. The Sub-Inspectors recently appointed in the Ahmedabad Collectorate report in favourable terms of the working of Act IX. in Ahmedabad, Dhollera and Gogo. I myself can corroborate their statements by my own experience as Inspector there from March to September last.

10. We cannot, of course, expect the same measure of success in independent Native States as our own, and I fear that much cottton of a very inferior description is still exported from Mowa, Verawul, and other ports in Kattywar. The arrangements at Bhownuggur for the agency of inspection, established by the Durbar, struck me last season as being very well organised, and carefully conducted. Much more favourable results would, I am confident, have been obtained this year, in North Guzerat, had an Inspector traversed the chief cotton-producing districts,

with a view o bringing his influence to bear on the ryots, and "middlemen" dealers: but as it is, I confidently anticipate a marked improvement in this seasen's crop from Ahmedabad and Kaira.

11. The Inspector of Dharwar and Belgaum travelled through a great portion of his districts during the year under review, though his duties as assistant in the factory somewhat restricted his sphere of usefulness. Dr. Forbes, Commissioner of Cotton, has assured me, however, that he derived the greatest benefit and assistance from the promulgation of the provisions of Act IX. throughout the Dharwar Collectorate, and that but for the wholesome dread inspired by them, he would not have been so successful as he has, in extending the cultivation of pure exotic and indigenous seed. The Dharwar crop is expected to be unusually good, and free from adulteration, this year.

12. Messrs. Stranack and Manley, the Inspectors for Canara and Ahmednuggur, Sattara and Sholapore, have only recently been appointed to the department. The former gentleman's duties confine him exclusively to the ports of Carwar and Coompta, where his presence has already been productive of good to the cotton trade. Mr. Manley has visited most of the cotton-producing districts of the Sattara and Sholapore Collectorates, and reports having fully explained to all parties interested, the provisions of Act IX. Besides having exerted his utmost influence to induce the ryots to cultivate a superior description of staple, and adopt a more careful method of husbandry, his efforts, I have reason to believe, will be attended with success.

The Sub-Inspectors at the Presidency report a marked improvement in the general condition of cotton examined by them last year at the presses, and the small quantity of this year's growth that has as yet reached Bombay is said to be very clean and good.

13. Four complaints only, on the part of merchants, were made to this department during the entire season, and these were promptly attended to. In one instance a European firm desired interference on our part, between themselves and their native constituents in a purely mercantile transaction, to which, of course, the functions of this department did not extend. In two other cases, convictions were unobtainable—although the assumption of theft and fraud committed at sea was strong—owing partly to the negligent and loose manner in which the shipping invoices were prepared, but principally to the apathy of the

native complainants. The last case was brought to notice in the month of December by a trading European mercantile firm, to whom I volunteered all the assistance in my power; but the information I solicited to enable me to trace the fraud home, has not yet been supplied to me. Mr. Showell, an officer of experience both at the Presidency and in the Mofussil, states in his Report of June last, "As to there being any thing like a systematic adulteration of cotton, sent down from the interior (whether in British or foreign territory) to be pressed at the screws in Bombay, I can safely say, that so far as my observation extended, during the very busy period of the last two months, it has entirely ceased." An opinion in which the other Sub-Inspectors coincide. Finally, I would observe that the Preventive Inspectors on the Taptee and Nurbudda Rivers, and the Inspector employed in H. H. the Hubshee's Territory, have by their presence on the scene of former depredations, almost, if not entirely, put a stop to the boat robberies that used to occur.

14. Whilst sensible of the beneficial results that have been obtained by the introduction of Act IX., I am quite prepared to admit the existence of abuses still. The chief of these I conceive to be the admixture of cotton of different staples,—a species of adulteration merchants complain most loudly against, inasmuch as the machinery at home is not adapted, without considerable alteration, to the manufacture of the mixed material, a great portion of which is thus lost to the spinner.

Mr. Ravenscroft in his letter No. 1 of 1864, dated 4th January, assigned 80 per cent. of the adulteration that was then in vogue to the malpractices of sailors, dividing the remaining 20 per cent. equally between the Mofussil and Bombay. Whatever may have been the case prior to the passing of the Act, I am quite convinced now that the species of adulteration alluded to in the commencement of this paragraph is the great evil remaining, and that it is principally carried on at the Presidency, in the warehouses and godowns where cotton is stored subsequent to its arrival from up-country, and before being taken to the screws for compression. In corroboration of my views I would beg to quote from the Report of Mr. J. Bulkley, Sub-Inspector here; he says "Large quantities of cotton arrive here from Kurrachee and Berar, but a very small quantity leaves Bombay as Scind or Berar cotton." This mode of adulteration is not confined solely to Bombay, but is practised in the large towns of the interior, as Surat, Broach, Ahmedabad (regarding which I can speak from my personal knowledge), and also, I have reason to believe along the line of Railway at places where cotton is

warehoused; it is very difficult of detection when skilfully performed, and it would, I imagine, puzzle even an "expert" of some standing to discover every instance coming before him. The best and most effective mode of checking the evil, as well as putting a stop to the robberies that occur, would be, in my opinion, to devote a certain portion of the funds at our disposal as "secret service money" for the payment of "detectives" who might be supplied to the different Inspectors by the Superintendents of Police, and who should be liberally rewarded in proportion to the value of the service performed. A few successful cases would have a very beneficial effect.

15. I will now discuss the measure which, I conceive, should be adopted with a view of giving still further effect to the provisions of Act IX., and rendering the agency of this department as efficient as it can be made.

Although the object of the Act is more particularly to prevent fraud and adulteration, I would respectfully suggest that as the revenues of the fund are derived solely from the mercantile community, and as Government do not in any way incur the cost of administration, it is the duty of the Cotton Department, with the sanction of Government, to do all in its power for the benefit of those persons whose interests are involved in the trade, and from whom the revenues of the Cotton Improvement Fund are derived. This can be effected, not only by giving the widest scope to the operations of the law, but also improving by every means in its power the quality of the cotton supplied hence to the home market. The subject is one of still larger, I might say almost imperial, interest, involving, as it does, the question as to whether in future years this country will be enabled to hold a high position in the cotton market, and compete successfully with neighbouring rivals.

16. To secure the services of an efficient staff of officers, by holding out the inducement of a liberal scale of pay, is the first essential, particularly under existing circumstances, when service in the department may be ruled not to count towards pension. The salary of some of the appointments, under the Cotton Frauds Act, last year, were, I conceive, fixed more in reference to the nominees' past position in Government service than with regard to the extent and reponsibility of their charges. I would desire respectfully to solicit the sanction of Government to the alterations made in the present constitution and salaries of the department for the current year;* the addition to the annual expenditure is, I admit, considerable, but not more so than the re-

* Vide appendix E.

quirements of the department demand, and I venture to express a hope, that Government will be pleased to approve of my suggestions, which I will now discuss in detail.

17. In the Presidency establishment there are at present three Sub-Inspectors drawing respectively, one, Rs. 1,100, and the other two, Rs. 700 each per mensem, inclusive of conveyance allowance ; I would modify the salaries as below. As there is a probability of Mr. Showell's leaving the department altogether, his successor should, I am of opinion, receive Rs. 900 pay per mensem with Rs. 100 monthly permanent conveyance allowance ; the other Inspectors, Rs. 800 and Rs. 700 respectively, with a uniform rate of Rs. 100 each conveyance allowance: the duties at the presses to be apportioned in accordance with the salaries. The having three scales of pay, would hold out hopes of promotion to the junior Sub-Inspectors. The estimated expenses of the current year will exceed Mr. Ravenscroft's estimate by about 21,000 Rs. ; but my predecessor calculated for only two Sub-Inspectors, whereas three are an absolute necessity, and his original estimate for office establishment and contingencies falls short of the present sanctioned sum (which has not been increased in my estimate) by Rs. 200 a month.

18. The estimate on account of the Ahmedabad and Kaira establishment for the current year has been reduced from that of the present sanctioned amount by upwards of Rs. 1,100. I do not think that, with Sub-Inspectors at Ahmedabad, Dholleru, and Gogo, it is at all requisite to maintain "Watchers," provided Government sanction my suggestion about the employment of "Detectives ;" in all other respects the Ahmedabad establishment has been left on its original footing.

19. I would recommend an increase of Rs. 100 per mensem to the present pay of the Surat and Broach Inspector, his charge being an important one. It would thus be raised to the scale of Mr. Ravenscroft's estimate, namely, Rs. 700 pay and Rs. 200 travelling allowance. In all other respects the Surat and Broach estimate has been left intact. The "Watcher's" establishment in these districts should, I think, be maintained, as hitherto, for eight months every year to prevent robberies and adulterations in the numerous creeks along the eastern coast of the Gulf of Cambay. I would here call attention to the fact of Mr. Merritt's having been acting Inspector for the last nine months ; as there seems no prospect of Mr. Hearn coming to the department, and Mr. Merritt has performed his duties satisfactorily, I would solicit the sanction of Government to his being confirmed in the appointment.

20. The Khandeish charge is a very large and important one, and, but for the existence of the railway, would entail more labour in supervising than *one* officer could well undertake. As it is, and taking into consideration the gradual extension of "Gins" and presses along the line of rail, and the enormous increase, of late years, in the traffic from the North-West Provinces, Berar, &c., I am decidedly of opinion, that a monthly salary of Rs. 700, with permanent travelling allowance of Rs. 200, is by no means too high a scale of pay for the Inspector in charge of this Collectorate. I would further solicit sanction to the appointment of two Sub-Inspectors, on monthly salaries of Rs. 150 each, to be employed up to 1st June, and subsequently from 1st October to 31st of December, as they are in Guzerat, where their utility has been thoroughly tested and made evident.

I would place the Dharwar and Belgaum establishment on exactly the same scale as that for Khandeish, and for similar reasons.

21. The Sattara, Sholapore, and Ahmednuggur establishment I woud leave as it is, the district is a scattered one, and the work of supervision entails a tolerable amount of travelling; but, as very little cotton is produced in these Collectorates, and few, if any, gins or presses exist at present, I consider the emolument of the office quite equal to the duties to be performed.

22. The Scind Inspectorship is the lowest paid of all, whilst the duties to be performed are by no means the least important. The Inspector might, with advantage, during the "*slack season*" of exports from Kurrachee, proceed "on tour" into the districts with a view to extending the introduction of good seed throughout the province, and encouraging an improved system of cultivation. I consider the Scind charge quite as important as that of Canara, and I would assimilate the pay accordingly, viz. Rs. 500 pay and Rs. 200 permanent travelling allowance.

23. The Cotton Inspector for His Highness the Hubshee's territory should continue to draw his present rate of salary, and his services be retained throughout the year as heretofore.

24. It will be seen that the total expenditure of last year amounted to Rs. 1,07,395-14-2, whilst the receipts, exclusive of fees which may have been levied at Karwar (of which no return has yet been received), were Rs. 2,20,436-1-6, leaving a surplus for the current year of Rs. 1,13,040-3-4. Assuming the exports of this year to equal those of last, we shall have further a sum of Rs. 2,18,000 odd to place on the credit side; but the probabilities are, looking at the comparative returns of cotton cultivation (Appendix B), and the reports that have been received of the

great increase of land under cotton in the Punjaub and N. W. Provinces, that the exports of 1865 will surpass those of 1864, even with such a contingency occurring as the cessation of the war in America. Adopting the first estimate, however, in order to be on the safe side, we have balance in hand on 1st January 1865 .....Rs. 1,13,040-3-4,
estimated total *receipts for 1865..... „ 2,20,436-1-6,
(same as last year)
Total..... „ 3,33,476-4-10,

or 3½ lacs of Rupees for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of Act IX. during the ensuing year: the amount estimated for every possible item of expenditure, on account of the agency to be employed, and for which sanction is requested from Government, is about 1½ lacs, leaving a balance of rather more than 1½ lac to the credit of the fund. The question is, what is the most advantageous method of utilising the large sum at our disposal?

25. At the last annual meeting of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce it was suggested that the tax of 4 annas per bale should be reduced in proportion to the cost of supervision. As the fee, however, though amounting in the aggregate to a large sum, is intrinsically small, and practically is levied from the manufacturers at home, and not the merchants of Bombay, I do not suppose that the latter seriously desire its reduction. As a precautionary measure I would not recommend such a course at present. I am hopeful of far greater and more successful results this year than last: provided the measures I have suggested, and still intend to suggest, are sanctioned by Government, and carried out without loss of time, and I am prepared in a great measure to stand or fall by the success of this season's operations. At the end of the current year it will be made manifest whether the results are proportionate to the expenditure incurred, and that will be, in my opinion, the best time to discuss the question of a reduction of fees. During the present high rates that cotton commands, a diminution of fees would not be so acceptable, as hereafter, should prices fall greatly, as they may.

26. I have detailed the numerical and pecuniary increase which I think should be made in the department with the object of extending its efficiency. I have also (in paragraph 14) advocated the employment of a very useful and, in my opinion,

* Inlouding fees on bales, press licenses, sale proceeds of adulterated cotton.

very necessary agency, and I sincerely trust that Government will be pleased to sanction this measure. I have, with regard to this subject, sounded merchants of standing and great experience in the cotton trade. Licensees of presses, and other persons possessing undoubted knowledge of the facts, all concur with myself in opinion regarding the existence of the evil indicated and the means to be used in eradicating it. Three cases of theft and adulteration occurred here last season, which in all probability would have been brought home to the perpetrators had the services of "Detectives" been made use of. The "trying back" system, though effectual enough in its way, is productive of inconvenience and annoyance to merchants, who, pending inquiries into cases of fraud, may have valuable property, purchased for delivery on a certain date, held in detention for some time. As already remarked, a few cases of detection of the adulteration carried on in godowns and warehouses would soon check the practice, and be of more service to merchants than double the number of detections made subsequently at the presses. Whilst on this subject I would beg to recommend that a sum of Rs. 500 each be placed at the disposal of the Collectors of Canara and Rutnagherry for the purpose of rewarding information regarding boat robberies between Coompta and Bombay. This measure was suggested to me some time since by Mr. Campbell, Superintendent of Police in Canara, and approved of by the Collector and Revenue Commissioner S. D. As it is calculated to supplement the services of the Preventive Inspector in H. H. the Hubshee's territory, and establish a chain of supervision along the coast, I would beg to recommend its adoption.

27. There remains one, and, in my opinion, the most important, measure of all, by carrying out which our department, without in any way allowing its more legitimate duties to be interfered with, might incalculably advance the interests of all parties interested in the cotton trade. I allude to the judicious application of the large surplus at our disposal towards introducing and extending the cultivation of really good and unmixed seed into districts such as Khandeish, Sattara, Sholapore, Scind, and parts of Guzerat, where at present only inferior varieties of cotton are grown—by assisting in carrying out improvements in the present rude machinery used up-country in ginning and pressing cotton—and finally by advice and personal influence inducing the people to adopt a better system in the cultivation and manipulation of their crops. These duties, strictly speaking, are more within the province of the Cotton Commissioner than our department, but the means at his disposal

for the purchase of seed and machinery are small compared with the large surplus at our disposal. Rather than permit this surplus to lie idle, I hope Government will be pleased to permit its being utilised in so legitimate an object as the improvement of the Indian staple. Without in any way wishing to interfere with Dr. Forbes's functions I am of opinion that, scattered about all over the country as the officers of the Cotton Department are, their opportunities of observing the requirements of the districts in their charge are extensive, and that this department, consequently, has it in its power to supplement very considerably the Cotton Commissioner's efforts. In November last, I made a "tour" through Khandeish in company with Dr. Forbes, and observed with much satisfaction the successful results of experiments set on foot by that gentlemen for the introduction of American seed into the Collectorate. The people seemed very willing and anxious to be supplied with pure seed, though they professed a predeliction for indigenous Dharwar over the exotic variety. Mr. Ashburner, the Collector, takes a great interest in the matter, and it is mainly owing to his influence that Mr. Hewett, the Inspector, has been able to succeed so well, as the following extract from his Report would indicate:—"It is with great satisfaction I am able to report that, in consultation with the Collector, I proceeded to take the feeling of the whole district about a supply of pure seed. All, with the exception of one or two 'talookas' near West Berar, *eagerly jumped at the opportunity of getting good seed which they beg may be supplied to them. They chose Khangaum and its neighbourhood, of which the cotton has always commanded enhanced prices. Advances and protective measures have not been asked for. Many local dealers came forward to co-operate and supply seed. A great and lasting good has been effected simply by suggestion and advice. Arrangements have been made, and by 1st February the first supplies will be received for distribution." Mr. Hewett has, I believe, made arrangements with the Traffic Manager of the G. I. P. Railway for the conveyance of seed from Sheagaum; 500 waggons will be repuired for the purpose. Mr. Manley, the Inspector for Sholapore, Sattara, and Ahmednuggur, has gone over most of the cotton-producing districts of the first two Collectorates, and though his report is not so cheering as Mr. Hewett's there is evidently a fine field open in that quarter for improvements and reforms. Mr. Hewett has succeeded without incurring any pecuniary liabilities, but the Sattara and Sholapore cultivators do not seem

* Where I presume supplies of pure seed are easily obtainable.—H. Bulkley

to be so fully alive to their own interests as the people of Khandeish, and might perhaps be averse to change unless they were guaranteed to a certain extent against loss.

In cases like this, a judicious advance of pecuniary aid, to be considered wholly or in part a loan or gift, would be of infinite service in furthering the object aimed at. Mr. Hughes, the Scind Inspector has also exerted himself greatly in his endeavours to introduce a superior description of cotton into the province. He says, "As Scind undoubtedly possesses land well suited for the cultivation of cotton, the only way for it to retain a hold on the English and Continental markets would be to introduce the cultivation of a longer-stapled cotton." He mentions 67 acres of ground at the Mulleer as the site of some successful experiments made this year with exotic cotton of different varieties, and suggests that this tract of land might be made a nursery for the propagation of exotic seed throughout the country. Mr. Hughes has ordered out from home a supply of Peruvian seed, as being the description of cotton best suited to the soil and climate of Scind. He says the people of the country are apathetic as a rule, and averse to novelty in regard to improvements in machinery, but is hopeful of good results through the aid and influence of the Collectors and Political Officers in charge of districts, both in regard to the extension of the cultivation of good cotton and introduction of improved machinery up-country. Colonel Green, Political Superintendent on the Frontier, writes, "I would suggest that Government be solicited to place at the disposal of the Collector of Shikarpore a few gins to be set up wherever cotton is mostly cultivated, and the zemindars should be encouraged to send their cotton to be cleaned at first 'gratis,' and when they had ocular proof that cotton cleaned by this process fetched higher prices than that uncleaned, a small sum might be charged to cover expenses, and by these means some enterprising individual might be induced to set up a steam one." Mr. Hughes says in reference to this, "If one or two gins could thus be placed at the disposal of Collector and Political Superintendents of every cotton-growing district in Scind, and the plan proposed be carried out, it would, I feel sure, have a future good effect."

The experiments hitherto conducted by Government, with a view to the improvement of the staple, proved failures, I am given to understand, through the incompetence of the officials in charge and the application of general rules to particular districts, which was of course a fatal mistake. The officers of the Cotton Department, from constantly travelling through the country under their charge, have ample opportunities of satisfying them-

selves of the requirements of each district of a Collectorate, and I trust that, from the quotations I have made above, a guarantee has been given of the interest the departmental officers take in the development of the cotton trade. I may here state, in explanation of the absence of information on this head from the remaining four Inspectors, that there is no cotton grown in Canara; while Dharwar and Belgaum are more immediately in the Cotton Commissioner's charge, who, doubtless, will in due time report on the progress made there during the past year, which I have been given to understand is very satisfactory. In Ahmedabad there has been no Inspector for the last five months, which I fear must tell against so great an improvement having been effected in the districts as doubtless would otherwise have been, while up to the present moment the report of the Surat and Broach Inspector has not come to hand.

28. It is far from my wish to advocate a lavish or unchecked expenditure of the funds at our disposal. All I solicit is the sanction of Government to the appropriation of a portion of our surplus towards the objects specified in the 26th and succeeding paragraphs.

Every application for a grant of money to purchase seed or machinery will be submitted to the Chief Inspector through the Collector of the district, and duly forwarded with full details for the approval of Government. The same remark applies to the remuneration of "Detectives;" meanwhile the permission of Government is solicited for the introduction of these measures.

29. Before concluding I would desire to record my opinion of the ready assistance and uniform courtesy shown the department by the Revenue Commissioners Northern and Southern Divisions and the officers in charge of the several Collectorates. I feel particularly indebted to Mr. Ashburner, the Collector of Khandeish, to whose cordial co-operation and that of his subordinates, Mr. Hewett states, is mainly due the success which has attended his efforts to improve the quality of the cotton in that Collectorate. Mr. Shaw Stewart, Collector of Canara, and Mr. Campbell, Superintendent of Police there, have always evinced great interest in the cotton question generally, and it is chiefly owing to the exertions of the latter officer that a flagrant case of robbery at sea, last year, was discovered and punished. The Commissioner of Police at Bombay has ever been ready to afford this office all the assistance in his power, whilst in Scind the several Collectors and Political Officers in charge of districts have, by their countenance and support, done much towards

aiding the Inspector in his efforts to enhance the quality and cultivation of cotton throghout the province.

30. Of subordinate district officers I would beg to recommend, for special reward from the Cotton Improvement Fund, the following :—

1. The Fouzdar of Coompta, by name Govind Kurumdiker, who first reported the case of theft at sea entered in Appendix D, and through whose instrumentality the charge was brought home to the offenders ; for his good services on this occasion I would suggest a pecuniary reward of Rs. 100.

2. The Kardar of Kurrachee, Mr. Ramchunder Kasinath, who Mr. Hughes reports, always afforded him the most efficient assistance in matters connected with his department, which assistance was especially valuable to Mr. Hughes for the first few months after his arrival at Kurrachee, until he had gained experience for himself. Mr. Hughes suggests a reward of Rs. 200, and as Mr. Ramchunder would appear to be a deserving Government Official, I have much pleasure in recommending the above suggestion for approval.

3 & 4. The Mamlutdars of Erundole and Nusseerabad in Khandeish, who, according to the report of the Inspector, Mr. Hewett, were of the greatest service to him, particularly the former, in ably seconding his efforts to introduce good seed into the district, rewards of Rs. 200 and Rs. 100 respectively.

31. Of the officers belonging to the department, I would desire to record my opinion in the words of my predecessor, "They have one and all given me satisfaction in every way." Judging by the results which have attended their efforts, I am of opinion that Messrs. Hewett and Hughes deserve every praise for their endeavours to stimulate improvements generally within the limits of their respective charges. Mr. Manley also is entitled to credit for his efforts in the same direction, although the difficulties he has had to contend against have been greater than in the case of the other two Inspectors.

The Presidency Sub-Inspectors and Mofussil Inspectors make favourable mention of the aid afforded them by licensees of presses and their readiness to listen to suggestions regarding the rejection of adulterated, or very dirty, cotton from their presses. It is satisfactory to know, also, that no single instance has come

under notice of merchants interested in the cotton trade having been subjected to inconvenience or annoyance by the officers of the department: indeed, the uniform good feeling that has existed between the executive and all classes with whom it has been brought into contact, speaks well for the manner in which the duties have been performed, and is the highest praise I can bestow on the officers employed under the Cotton Frauds Act.

32. In conclusion I would beg to apologise for the length of this Report and the lateness of its date of despatch.

The great mass of interesting matter to be noticed must plead my excuse for the former; whilst in regard to the latter, I would desire to state, I have kept my Report back several days (I may say weeks) awaiting the arrival of certain official documents from up-country. The non-receipt of these up to the present time compels me to forward my letter in an incomplete state; but I cannot delay longer, being anxious to acquaint Government with the result of last year's operations, and to submit for their approval the measures I have suggested in modification of existing arrangements. The present year's crop is beginning to reach Bombay, and I would, therefore, respectfully solicit that the sanction, if granted, may be notified at an early date.

Copies of the Reports of Messrs. Hughes and Hewett are appended, as they may prove interesting to Government. May I request the favour of being supplied with a few spare printed copies of this Report for purposes of circulation amongst the Chambers of Commerce here and at home, as well as the several Cotton Inspectors in the department.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT *showing the Receipts and Disbursements of*

LOCALITY.	RECEIPTS.				
	Fees levied on Bales exported to Europe.	License Fees on Cotton Presses.	Fines & Sale proceeds of adulterated Cotton under Act IX. of 1863.	Retrenchments for Peons' Clothing, &c.	TOTAL.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Bombay.....	2,08,798 11 4	484 0 0	50 0 0	105 6 2	2,09,438 1 6
Hubshee's Territory..	....	....	....	....	....
Dharwar and Belgaum.....	....	2 0 0	....	6 11 11	8 11 11
Surat & Broach	....	145 0 0	334 0 0	12 5 1	491 5 1
Khandeish....	....	6 0 0	609 1 0	16 5 6	631 6 6
Ahmedabad & Kaira*.....	....	107 0 0	482 12 10	....	589 12 10
Scind..... ..	9,226 8 0	14 0 0	....	6 3 8	9,246 11 8
Canara†..... ..	....	20 0 0	10 0 0	....	30 0 0
Sattara, Sholapore and Ahmednuggur.....	....	....	....	....	....
Total.....Rs.	2,18,025 3 4	778 0 0	1,485 13 10	147 0 4	2,20,436 1 6

SUM

Total receipts.....

Total expenditure....

Balance at Credit on 1st January 1865.

A.

the Cotton Improvement Fund during 1864.

DISBURSEMENTS.			REMARKS.
Pay, Travelling & Conveyance Allowances of Establishments	Contingent Charges of every description.	TOTAL.	
7	8	9	10
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
47,637 15 0	1,400 2 8	49,138 1 8	
4,570 5 4	....	4,570 5 4	
11,720 0 0	117 5 0	11,837 5 0	
10,110 14 9	199 0 6	10,309 15 3	
9,800 10 0	304 0 1	10,104 10 1	
10,491 10 8	271 2 3	10,762 12 11	* The Ahmedabad accounts not having been furnished in detail, column 4 contains retrenchments, fines, and sale proceeds of adulterated cotton.
6,953 9 9	78 1 5	7,031 11 2	
1,277 13 0	14 10 0	1,292 7 0	
2,321 12 9	126 13 0	2,448 9 9	† No fees levied at Carwar last year, as cotton was sent direct to Bombay.
1,04,884 11 3	2,511 2 11	1,07,395 14 2	

MARY.

Rs. 2,20,436 1 6
Rs. 1,07,395 14 2
Rs. 1,13,040 3 4

(Signed) HARRINGTON BULKLEY,
Acting Chief Inspector of Cotton, Bombay.

APPENDIX

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Area of Land under

Locality.	For the Year 1864.					
	Indigenous Cotton.		Exotic Cotton.		Total.	
	Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Dharwar.....	203,625	10,181,250	323,535	32,353,500	527,160	42,534,750
Belgaum	341,185	17,059,250	5,979	597,900	347,164	17,657,150
Ahmedabad ...	319,342	14,370,390	..	..	319,342	14,370,390
Kaira.....	15,809	632,360	..	..	15,809	632,360
Khandeish.. ..	354,553	14,954,885	4 ars. not counted.	..	354,553	14,954,885
Kulludghee....	433,250	21,662,500	3,237	323,700	436,487	21,986,200
Sattara.	24,820	868,700	1,840	128,800	26,660	997,500
Ahmednuggur.	5,593	195,755	..	...	5,593	195,755
Poona.....	1,211	60,368	..	...	1,211	60,368
Scind	59,338	6,415,520	Estimated with indigenous.	...	59,338	6,415,520
Surat & Broach	..	..	..	...	..	..
Sholapore	..	..	..	...	..	..
Total..	1,758,726	86,400,978	334,591	33,403,900	2,093,317	119,804,878

N. B.—In the present year there is an estimated deficiency of indigenous
Exotic

Total decrease in the current year indigenous

FOR THE YEAR 1865.

Indigenous Cotton.		Exotic Cotton.		Total.	
Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds.
8	9	10	11	12	13
185,371	11,585,688	280,230	35,028,750	4,65,601	46,614,438
		..			
235,458	11,920,060	10,281	1,092,356	2,45,739	13,012,416
327,470	11,461,450	...	..	3,27,470	11,461,450
16,146	484,380	..	..	16,146	484,380
465,524	13,965,720	Three acres	not counted	4,65,524	13,965,720
333,705	21,662,500	3,264	326,400	3,36,969	21,988,900
41,820	1,463,700	91	6,370	41,911	1,470,070
19,325	620,010	..	..	19,325	620,010
17,180	843,584	..	..	17,180	843,584
80,417	7,804,320	67 acres included.	with indigenous.	80,417	7,804,320
..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..
1,722,416	81,811,412	2,93,866	36,453,876	2,016,282	118,265,288

Locality.	Increase in 1865.			
	Indigenous Cotton.		Exotic Cotton.	
	Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds.
1	14	15	16	17
Dharwar	...	1,404,438	..	2,675,250
Belgaum	...	...	4,302	494,456
Ahmedabad	8,128	...	..	..
Kaira	337	...	..	..
Khandeish	110,971	...	..	..
Kulludghee	...	...	27	2,700
Sattara	17,000	595,000	...	...
Ahmednuggur	13,732	424,255	...	...
Poona	15,969	783,216	...	...
Scind	21,079	1,388,800	...	...
Surat and Broach	...	...	...	...
Sholapore	...	...	..	...
Total...	187,216	4,595,709	4,329	3,172,406

B.

Cotton cultivation and the estimated Produce during 1864 *and* 1865.

Decrease in 1865.				Remarks.
Indigenous Coton		Exotic Cotton.		
Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds	
18	19	20	21	22
18,254	..	43,305	...	Calculated at 50 lbs. of cleaned indigenous cotton per acre, 100 lbs. exotic cotton per acre. Crop of 1865 increased 25 per cent. according to Collector's return.
1,05,727	5,139,190	..	..	Same estimate as above. Crop of 1865 increased 6 per cent.
..	2,908,940	..	..	Estimate for 1864, 40 lbs. per acre ; 1865, 35 lbs. Present season unfavourable
..	147,980	...	..	Estimate for 1864, 40 lbs.; 1865, 30 lbs. For same reasons as above.
..	989,165	..	...	Estimate for 1864, 45 lbs.; 1865 only 30 lbs.
99,745	..	...	..	Same as Dharwar. Crop of 1865 increased a little over 25 per cent.
..	..	1,749	122,430	Estimate of both years 35 lbs. indigenous cotton per acre ; exotic 7 lbs. per acre
..	..	..	..	Estimate of 1864, 35 lbs. per acre. Do. of 1865, 32 lbs. do.
..	..	..	..	Collector's estimate entered. In 1864, 50 lbs.; in 1865, 49 lbs. per acre.
..	..	..	..	Cotton Inspector's estimate entered, about 108 lbs. per acre in 1864 and 97 lbs. in 1865, which I think rather high.
..	..	..	...	No returns have yet been received.
..	..	..	..	Do.
223,526	9,185,275	45,054	1,22,430	

Cotton .... Acres 36,310, pounds, 4,589,566 or nearly 1,200 bales.
Cotton ..... „ 40,725, though there is an *increase* in yield of 3,049,976 or 8,000 bales.

and exotic Cotton... Acres 77,035, pounds 1,539,590 or about 4,000 bales.

(Signed) Harrington Bulkley,
Acting Chief Inspector.

APPENDIX C.

STATEMENT *of Cases tried during the past year (1864) under Bombay Act IX. of* 1863.

LOCALITY.	Under Section II.	Under Section III.	Under Section IV.	Under Section VIII.	Under Section IX.	TOTAL.	REMARKS.
Ahmedabad and Kaira, including Bhownuggur.	..	3	1	5	...	9	Cases under Section III, fined Rs. 40, Rs. 100, Rs. 200 respectively. Do. Section IV. do. Rs. 15. Do. Section VIII. do. Rs. 50, Rs. 75, Rs. 100, Rs. 100, Rs. 200. In last three cases cotton was confiscated. One man detected at Gogo by police watcher stealing cotton was fined Rs. 100. One press-owner's license cancelled for wilfully compressing adulterated cotton.
Surat and Broach..	9	1	7	...	9	26	Cases under Section II. Bales confiscated in six instances, do. in two cases, and fines of Rs. 50 each. In one case bale confiscated and Rs. 100 fine, or three months' rigorous imprisonment. Do. do. Section III. Rs. 75 fine. Do. do. Section IV. fines varying from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20. Do. do. Section IX. fines varying from Rs. 1 to Rs. 75. Three sailors detected stealing cotton from a boat in the River Nurbudda were fined each Rs. 50, and sentenced in addition to six months' rigorous imprisonment. A very strong case against a tindal and boat's screw for robbery and adulteration at sea failed in consequence of the Bombay assignees declining to prosecute.
Khandeish.....	2	1	...	...	...	3	Cases under Sec. II. Eight days' simple imprisonment, and fines of Rs. 60 and Rs. 75. Do. do. Section III. Rs. 100 fine.
Canara	...	...	...	1	...	1	Case under Section VIII. Rs. 10 fine; cotton confiscated.
Bombay.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	A merchant was fined Rs. 200, and sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment for theft of cotton at sea between Carwar and Compta. In this same case a Custom-House Clerk was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment for falsifying the boat's manifest. A merchant was fined Rs. 50 for shipping cotton in contravention of the provisions of the law.
Total...	11	5	8	6	9	39	

(Signed) HARRINGTON BULKLEY, Acting Chief Inspector of Cotton.

APPENDIX D.

STATEMENT *of Cotton Presses established throughout the Bombay Presidency in* 1864.

COLLECTORATES.	No. of Presses worked by.		Where situated.	REMARKS.
	Manual Labour.	Steam Power.		
1	2	3	4	5
Dharwar	1	.....	Gudduck	Three private presses belonging to Manchester Company in course of being established, and one Government press put up, but not yet in working order.
Khandeish	1	.....	Julgaum	Several presses about to be established along the line of Railway.
	.....	1	Bhosawul	
Ahmedabad and Kaira	21	2	City of Ahmedabad	Establishment of steam-presses gradually extending in the vicinity of Railway Station at Ahmedabad.
	70	.....	Dhollera	
	5	.....	Gogo	
	5	.....	Sarsa near Nuriad	
Canara	.....	7	Carwar	One press worked all last year. Of the six presses belonging to the Manchester Company one worked last monsoon. The others are being put in working order by Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart and Co. and Nicol and Co.
Scind	3	2	Kurrachee	Twelve other steam-presses will shortly be in working order.
Bombay	24	92	Bombay	Fresh presses being established.
			Fort, Colaba, Mazagon	
Surat and Broach	2	.....	Surat City	Establishment of steam-presses will gradually be extended near Railway Station.
	24	.....	Broach	
	117	.....	In Districts	
	269	104		

HARRINGTON BULKELEY, Acting Chief Inspector of Cotton.

APPENDIX E.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Monthly Expenditure of the Establishment entertained for carrying out the provisions of Act IX. of 1863 sanctioned by Government during 1864, and the Estimated Expenditure for 1865 for which sanction is solicited.

Locality.	Designation.	In 1864.		In 1855.		Decrease in 1865.	Increase in 1865.
		Monthly. Salary.	Total.	Monthly. Salary.	Total.		
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs.
For the Town and Port of Bombay.	1 Chief Inspector	2,458 5 4		2,458 5 4			
	1 Sub-Inspector	1,100 0 0		1,000 0 0			
	1 Ditto	700 0 0		900 0 0			
	1 Ditto	700 0 0		800 0 0			
	Office Establishment and contingent charges of every description	500 0 0		500 0 0			
			5,458 5 4		5,658 5 4	..	200
Ahmedabad and Kaira Collectorates.	1 Inspector	1,000 0 0		1,000 0 0			
	Establishment including contingent charges	150 0 0		150 0 0			
	2 Sub-Inspectors } Foreight	300 0 0		300 0 0			
	1 Sub-Inspector } months.	100 0 0		100 0 0			
	Peons' Establishment for Sub-Inspectors	54 0 0		60 0 0			
	"Watchers" for 8 months	146 0 0		.....			
			1,750 0 0		1,610 0 0	140	..
Surat and Broach Collectorates.	1 Inspector	800 0 0		900 0 0			
	Establishment and contingent charges	150 0 0		150 0 0			
	3 Sub-Inspectors, 8 months	400 0 0		400 0 0			
	Peons' Establishment for Sub-Inspectors	60 0 0		60 0 0			

Khandeish Collectorate.	2 Preventive Inspectors with Establishment. (For eight months.)	800 0 0		800 0 0			
	"Watchers" for 8 months...	140 0 0	2,350 0 0	140 0 0	2,450 0 0	...	100
	1 Inspector	700 0 0		900 0 0			
	Establishment and contingent charges	150 0 0		150 0 0			
	2 Sub-Inspectors Peons' Establishment for Sub-Inspectors. (For eight months.)	.....		300 0 0			
		.....	850 0 0	40 0 0	1,390 0 0	...	540
Dharwar and Belgaum Collectorates.	1 Inspector	800 0 0		900 0 0			
	Establishment and contingent charges	150 0 0		150 0 0			
	2 Sub-Inspectors Peons' Establishment for Sub-Inspectors. (For eight months.)	.....		300 0 0			
		.....	950 0 0	40 0 0	1,390 0 0	...	440
Sattara, Sholapore & Ahmednuggur Collectorates.	1 Inspector	900 0 0		900 0 0			
	Establishment and contingent charges	150 0 0	1,050 0 0	150 0 0	1,050 0 0	...	...
Scind.	1 Inspector	550 0 0		700 0 0			
	Establishment and contingent charges	150 0 0	700 0 0	150 0 0	850 0 0	...	150
Canara.	1 Inspector	700 0 0		700 0 0			
	Establishment and contingent charges	150 0 0	850 0 0	150 0 0	850 0 0	...	..
	1 Inspector	350 0 0		350 0 0			
	Boat and Crew	174 0 0	524 0 0	174 0 0	524 0 0	..	..

N.B.—The monthly salaries of Inspectors, entered in columns, 3, 11, and 13, include permanent travelling and conveyance allowances.

The sanctioned allowances on account of contingent and postal charges are for Bombay Rs. 400 and Rs. 100 respectively; for the Mofussil Establishments Rs. 100 and Rs. 50 respectively per mensem. The allowance of Rs. 60 and Rs. 40 respectively on account of the Peons' Establishments for the Sub-Inspectors of Ahmedabad, Surat, Khandeish, and Dharwar, includes the pay of 2 Peons each at Rs. 9 a piece per mensem and Rs. 2 on account of postage. The Watcher's Establishment at Broach will be paid from the balance of Rs. 600 per mensem sanctioned by Government after deducting the pay of Sub-Inspectors and Peons, &c. The originally sanctioned pay of the Khandeish Inspector was Rs. 800 with Rs. 20 permanent travelling allowance. The present incumbent has only received Rs. 500 and Rs. 200.

Amount sanctioned by Government for Expenditure of 1864.	Actual amount expended in 1864.	Estimated amount of Expenditure for 1865.
Rs. 1,65,788 0 0	Rs. 1,07,395 14 2	Rs. 1,78,908 0 0

Balance at Credit on 1st January 1865.....	Rs.	1,13,040	3 4
Estimated Receipts for current year.....	„	2,20,436	1 6
Total...	Rs.	3,33,476	4 10
Estimated Expenditure for current year.....	„	1,78,908	0 0
Balance available for purposes specified in paragraphs of Acting Chief Inspector's letter.....	Rs.	1,54,568	4 10

(Signed) HARRINGTON BULKLEY,
Acting Chief Inspector of Cotton, Bombay.

REPORT *by* A. W. HUGHES, *Esq., Inspector of Cotton for Scind, dated 12th December* 1864.

I.—SCIND AS A COTTON-PRODUCING COUNTRY.

1. It was not before the year 1861 that the Province of Sind produced any cotton for exportation, all that had hitherto been grown being sufficient only to meet the wants of its inhabitants. The climate, it was known, was not prejudicial to its production, and previous to 1861 some garden-grown Scind cotton had been sent to Bombay for opinion, and had there been pronounced by the Chamber of Commerce to be as good as the best produced in Guzerat.

2. The principal districts in Scind where cotton is largely grown, would appear to be the Collectorates of Hydrabad and Shikarpore and to a smaller extent the Frontier districts of Upper Scind, the northern portion of the Kurrachee Collectorate, and the Thurr and Parkur districts. In the Hydrabad Collectorate the chief cotton-producing districts are Alyaka Tanda, Shadadpoor, the Hydrabad district itself, and Halla. In the Shikarpore Collectorate all the four districts of Sukkur, Larkhana, Roree, and Mehur produce large quantities. In the Kurrachee Collectorate the districts of Sehwan and Jerruck grow cotton, but to a small extent only. In the Frontier districts Mirpoor produces the largest quantity, while in the Thurr and Parkur districts the amount grown is very trifling. The following tables will show as accurately as can be obtained the extent of land cultivated with cotton, indigenous and foreign, during the years 1861-62,1862-63,1863-64, and the estimated area for 1864-65, as also the estimated quantity of clean cotton produced during the same several years and the prospective out-turn for 1864-65 :—

I.

Collectorate or District.	1861-62.			1862-63			1863-64.			1864-65
	Native Cotton.	Foreign Cotton.	Total.	Native Cotton.	Foreign Cotton.	Total.	Native. Cotton	Foreign Cotton.	Total.	Estimated Acreage.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1. Kurrachee..	2,780	Nil	2,780	1,324	18	1,342	1,858	18	1,870	5,638
2. Hydrabad.....	14,242	7	14,249	17,376	Nil	17,376	31,688	Nil	31,688	36,472
3. Shikarpore....	23,890	1	23,891	18,464	½	18,464½	24,315	Nil	24,315	35,671
4. Frontier districts..	2,416	Nil	2,416	1,635	Nil	1,635	572	Nil	572	1,436
5. Thurr & Parkur...	517	Nil	517	517	Nil	517	887	Nil	887	1,200
	43,845	8	43,853	39,316	18½	39,334½	59,320	18	59,338	80,417

II.

Collectorate or District.	1861-62.	1862-63.	1863-64.	1864-65.
	Mds. (80 lbs.) of cl. Cotton.	Mds. (80 lbs.) of cl. Cotton.	Mds. (80 lbs.) of cl. Cotton.	Mds. (80 lbs.) of cl. Cotton.
1. Kurrachee	2,087	1,925	2,445	3,036
2. Hydrabad	25,587	25,959	58,833	67,200
3. Shikarpore	19,538	15,162	18,236	26,753
4. Frontier districts	No returns	No returns	122	305
5. Thurr & Parkur	No returns	No returns.	558	260
	47,212	43,046	80,194	97,554

3. From these tables it will be apparent that it is the Hydrabad Collectorate which has made the greatest advance in the production of the raw material, the area cultivated there with cotton and its yield in 1863-64 being about double that of the previous year. The entire area throughout Scind was, with the exception of 18 acres, wholly sown with seed indigenous to the country. The aggregate number of native churkas in the Province in 1863-64, with the exception of the Collectorates of Kurrachee and Shikarpore, for which returns are not given was 9,244, and of these 8,966 were found in the Hydrabad Collectorate alone. Not a single saw-gin, worked by either hand or steam power, appears to have been in use in any part of Scind. It will be gratifying to notice that of the estimated average for 1864-65 of cotton cultivation there are included 67 acres at the "Mulleer," a fertile and fairly watered spot about 15 miles from Kurrachee, all sown with "exotic" seed, and it is expected the venture will turn out very well This place may possibly in course of time be made a nursery for foreign seed for the whole Province, and it would in such a case become an important nucleus for future experiments with all exotic varieteties of cotton seed. In August last I sent to the then Chief Inspector of Cotton at Bombay a good specimen of Mulleer-grown cotton raised from Egyptian seed which had been kindly made over to me by Mr. H. Maxwell, of the firm of Messrs. Finlay & Co. of this city.

4. The prevailing species of cotton grown in Scind is the "*Gossypium Indicum*;" it is short-stapled and is known generally under the terms "Kooshab" "Giddoo-ka-Tanda" from the place on the River Indus whence it is sent to Kurrachee. Both sorts are of the same length in staple, averaging from a half to three-quarters of an inch, the first coming from the Shikarpore and Scind Frontier districts and the latter from the Collectorate of Hydrabad. The feel of Scind cotton, especially when new, is of a crisper and harsher nature than that from the Punjaub, which is much softer and silkier to the touch, though in length of staple there is no perceptible difference. In point of cleanliness the cotton from the Hydrabad districts is superior to that from Upper Scind, which latter has been found, at least during the past season, to be very leafy and carelessly cleaned.

5. Cotton cultivation is carried on mainly by irrigation throughout all the districts of Scind, a method which, it may be as well to mention, is essential to cultivation of every des-

cription in this Province. The average yield per acre of *cleaned* cotton may be put down at 72 lb., the range being from 64 to 80 lb., a pretty fair rate as compared with other cotton-growing districts of British India. The method of cultivation is, however, represented to be careless, while the population of the Province is both poor and scant, and Scindees generally would appear to have a disinclination for any novelty in the way of preparing the raw material or to make any effort towards producing a superior, and in consequence a more remunerative, description of cotton than that now grown.

6. Careful experiments have from time to time been carried on with the object of introducing, if possible, the cultivation of foreign cotton into Scind. One of these was conducted under the superintendence of a Mr. Prince in the years 1853-54-55, when large quantities of Sea Island and New Orleans cotton seed were distributed very generally over the Province, but the result, owing, it would seem, mainly to the cultivators being averse to sow American seed, and to much of it having been planted too late in the season, was unsatisfactory. Again in 1860 another trial with Egyptian cotton seed was made in all the Collectorates and districts of Scind, but in several instances it turned out a total failure, and some of the cotton produced from the Egyptian seed was so deteriorated in character that, when shown to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, they doubted whether it was actually the product of Egyptian seed or not. The sample was described by them as being of a good colour and clean, but staple very short and similar in character to middling fair Oomrawuttee; value from $5\frac{1}{4}d.$ to $5\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb. (middling Egyptian was then fetching in the market $8\frac{1}{4}d.$)

II.—The Punjaub as a Cotton-Producing Country.

7. Of all the cotton that comes to Kurrachee for exportation, either in bulk to Bombay or in pressed bales to European ports, quite five-sixths are supposed to be supplied by the Punjaub, the remaining one-sixth being the produce of the Province of Scind. As, therefore, about 41 million pounds of cotton were in 1862-63 exported from Kurrachee to other ports, the large quantity of nearly 35 millions must have thus been the produce of the Punjaub alone.

8. The chief cotton-growing districts in the Punjaub, in their order of importance, are Umballa, Rawul Pindee, Umritsur, Mooltan, Delhi, Jullundur, Hissar, Lahore, and Peshawur. In 1860-61 the total area cultivated with cotton was 4,67,513 acres and the out-turn 5,41,460 maunds, of which 1,67,975 were

exported. In 1861-62 there was an increase both in area and in the quantity of cotton cultivation, but in the Administration Report of the Punjaub for that year no mention is made of this increase. In 1862-63 the out-turn, owing to unseasonable weather, was reported to be less than in the preceding year; but no statistical information was given. 1863-64 the crop, it was believed, did not exceed that of 1862-63 owing to ravages by locusts, but again in the Administration Report for that year no details of cotton cultivation were entered into.

9. The cotton of the Punjaub, like that of Scind, is a short-stapled variety, but, so far as cleanliness and general preparation for the market are concerned, is for the most part superior to that grown in Scind. This refers more especially to the cotton from the Dhera Ghazee Khan district, which holds the first place in price and excellence among that sent for exportation from the Punjaub, and has a soft and silky feel which serves to distinguish it from that produced in Scind. A sample of Dhera Ghazee Khan cotton sent to the last English International Exhibition was pronounced to be a good, useful cotton, colour white, value 12*d.* per lb., but if properly picked and ginned would fetch 14*d.* The largest quantity of Punjaub cotton comes from the Ferozepore and Umritsur districts, but, being in many cases leafy and ill-cleaned, does not fetch so high a price in the market as Dhera. In 1861 the quantity of Umritsur cotton received at Kurrachee was but 1,300 maunds (or 1,04,000 lbs.), but in 1862 it had increased to 35,000 maunds (or 28,00,000 lbs.) From Mooltan there were sent, it is said, in the same year to Kurrachee 5,000 tons (or 112,00,000 lbs.) of cotton the produce of the Peshawur, Dhera Ismael Khan, Dhera Ghazee Khan, and Mooltan districts.

10. Though the production of the raw material might, it is thought, be indefinitely increased in the Punjaub, the uncertainty of the seasons prevailing there offers great obstacles to that Province ever becoming a cotton-growing country on a very large scale. The high prices of cotton ruling during the past two or three years have, nevertheless, afforded a great stimulus to production, and the area cultivated with cotton during the past season is believed to be larger than at any former period.

III.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE COTTON FRAUDS ACT IN SCIND.

11. The practical administration of the Cotton Frauds Act in Scind may be said to date from the beginning of March of the present year, the only licensed cotton press then at work in the Province being that of the "Kurrachee Press Company" situate on the Napier Mole with Messrs. Fleming & Co. as its

Secretaries and Treasurers. There was at the time another press-house belonging to the same Company in course of erection on the MacLeod Road, but to this did not come into operation before the month of June last, and though steam machinery had been put up, it continued from want of proper gear I believe, to be worked by manual labour as a capstan press. The Napier Mole presses were calculated to turn out daily 300 pressed bales, and the three capstan presses on the MacLeod Road 150. Buildings for three other press companies are now in course of erection, and two of these it is expected will be ready for work by January next. The following table will show the number of press companies (with the power employed) in existence though not all at work :—

Companies.	Number of Presses.	Power used.	Where situate.
1. Kurrachee Press Company	2	Steam	Kurrachee.
2. do.	3	Manual.	Do.
3. Albert Press Company.....	4	Steam.	Do.
4. Tyabjee Press Company...	2	Do.	Do.
5. Scind Press Company.....	6	Do.	Do.

12. Having been informed, a short time after my arrival at Kurrachee, that the practice of adulterating Oomrawuttee cotton with the better sorts of Scind short-stapled cottons prevailed in Bombay, I lost no time in forwarding to the Chief Inspector in March six carefully prepared descriptions of the cottons grown in Scind and the Punjaub with the object of affording a means of its detection in Bombay, where the *act* of adulteration would necessarily be committed. Further, having found that the provisions of the Act were not generally known among those dealing in cotton, either Europeans or natives, the proprietor of the Albion Printing Press in Kurrachee was induced to publish the Cotton Frauds Act in a small but handy pamphlet form, and a good many of these were disposed of. Copies also of the Act in the Scindee and Guzerathee languages were obtained and sold with, I think, good effect among the native cotton merchants.

13. As I had found during the months of March and April that it was necessary to reject a few packages of cotton brought to the screw presses for compression as being either very dirty or refuse or pickings, and as it was represented by the owners that a much better price could be got in England for such cotton than in India, I issued, after communication with the

Chief Inspector at Bombay, a notice in English, Scindee, and Guzarathee to the effect that such cotton might be allowed to be pressed at any licensed press provided two days' previous notice were given to the Inspector, and that every pressed bale should be marked in English to show its contents. The firm of Messrs. S. Tyabjee & Co. of this city was the only one that offered any opposition to this plan, but they subsequently withdrew their objection to it. It has been carried out without in any way harassing the cotton owner; and as the object is to prevent deteriorated cotton or refuse from being thrust upon the Home markets as a good and fair article, in other words for the prevention of *fraud*, it is to be hoped it has been attended with some success.

14. About 20 cases have been investigated in which cotton has been brought for compression to licensed presses, and upon opening it out, stones, pieces of brick caked dirt, and other rubbish have been found in it, such being an infraction of Section VIII. of the Cotton Frauds Act; but as in every case not only was ignorance of the existence of the Act pleaded, but the desire shown to at once remove all such cotton without delay from the press premises; and as I believed that the framers of the Act intended that the offering of such cotton should be of a *fraudulent* or *dishonest* character, and that simple negligence on the owner's part was not intended to be made penal, I considered it needless to bring any one of these cases into a Magistrate's Court. Since August last two cases only of a similar nature have come under my cognizance, and I feel persuaded that more pains are now being bestowed upon the examination of cotton previous to sending it to the presses for compression. All investigated cases have been duly recorded.

15. In speaking of the working, during the past season, of the Cotton Frauds Act in Scind, I would beg to be permitted to observe that, as by far the major portion of the cotton exported from Kurrachee comes from the Punjaub, had the Cotton Frauds Act been made the law there as in the Bombay Presidency it would to some extent have prevented much of the dirty and refuse cotton coming to this place from both Umritsur and Ferozepore. In some cases I have traced the mixing of stones and dirt in cotton "doeras" to Mooltan and Ferozepore; but as the Cotton Frauds Act is a dead letter there, all that could be done under the circumstances was to write to the owners at those places and *suggest* the necessity for a more careful examination of their cotton previous to sending it to the port of exportation. Sections II. and III. of the Act would seem, from the

experience of the past season, to contain all that is necessary, so far at least as Scind is concerned, for the punishment of fraudulent adulteration of cotton, or for the fraudulent sale of such, due regard being paid to the interpretation put upon certain parts of Section II. by the Chief Inspector in his letters to the Mofussil Inspectors. In Section V., however, which provides for the licensing of all cotton presses, I would beg to suggest the necessity that seems to exist for the Governor in Council prescribing certain rules to compel owners of presses to pay a little more attention to the working of their presses than is at present observable in Kurrachee. The press-owner should, I am of opinion, conjointly with the Inspector, be equally interested in seeing that no refuse cotton pickings, &c., are pressed on his premises, unless the same has been duly permitted by the Government Inspector, in accordance with his notice of the 8th June last. The Chief Inspector of Cotton has certainly in his circular letter No. 194, dated 30th May last, directed all press-owners to be informed that they should not allow adulterated or even *very carelessly cleaned*, cotton to be pressed on their premises. As this could not well be considered a rule prescribed by the Governor in Council such as is contemplated in Section V. of the Cotton Frauds Act, press-owners could afford to disregard this injunction, and this would appear to have been the case with the "Kurrachee Press Company" when its secretaries stated in their letter of the 2nd November to my address that "the Company press any cotton that is brought for that purpose, and cannot be held responsible under the Act for the quality of what is turned out." In my letter No. 138, dated 9th November, to the Chief Inspector on this subject I suggested that to guard against acts of negligence on the part of the licensee or of the people employed by him at the presses, a few rules ought to be subscribed to by the former when taking out his license. These were as follow :—

Rule I.—Every press-owner taking out a license for working any press under Bombay Act IX. of 1863 shall agree on his part to nominate, as soon as possible after the grant of such license, some one person to be considered the manager of such press, who shall be the person to whom the Government Inspector can apply in all cases connected with his duties at such press as an Inspector of cotton under Bombay Act IX. of 1863.

Rule II.—Every licensed press-ownershall agree not to receive for compression at his press any very dirty cotton, or any adulterated or deteriorated cotton such as is mentioned

in Section II. of Bombay Act IX. of 1863, unless the Government Inspector may have directed or shall direct such cotton to be compressed.

Rule III.—Every licensed press-owner shall agree to employ on his premises so many persons as may be necessary (generally one to each press) for the purpose of removing all dust, dirt, and other like matter which may find its way into the press-room from the outer coverings of cotton packages brought for compression, or in any other way.

Rule IV.—Every licensed press-owner shall himself assist, and he shall also direct the manager and other members of his press establishment to assist, as far as can reasonably be excepted, the Government Inspector in preventing all adulterated or deteriorated cotton or such as is mentioned in Section II. of Bombay Act IX. of 1863 from being pressed at his press, and shall further direct his manager in such cases not to permit such cotton to be compressed until the orders of the Government Inspector are obtained as to the disposal of such cotton.

16. The most important provision in the Cotton Frauds Act is undoubtedly that contained in Section VIII., which makes it penal for any one to offer for compression any adulterated or deteriorated, &c., cotton. I have hitherto considered that this offering should in the first place be proved to be of a *fraudulent* or *dishonest* character before any steps could be taken to prosecute the offender, as otherwise, a person offering merely badly cleaned or dirty cotton unfit for compression, according to Section II. of the Act, would run the same risk of being prosecuted equally with the party who offered it with the intention of committing fraud. I believe that I am borne out in this view of the case by paragraph 4 of the Chief Inspector's circular letter No. 28 of 29th February last, where persistance only on the part of an owner of deteriorated cotton to get such compressed would render him liable to be prosecuted according to Section VIII. I would, however, beg to suggest that were the words "fraudulently or dishonestly" added between the words "any person" and "offering" in the Section referred to, it would have the effect of making the meaning more intelligible, and would not at any time allow of *mere negligence* being punished equally with fraud.

17. Clause 1. of Section XI. of the Act takes into consideration among other matters the duties of the Inspectors of cotton.

They are empowered to examine cotton exposed or intended for sale, and to have access to all buildings, &c. where any gin or press may be at work or prepared to work. It has appeared to me questionable whether this Section empowers an Inspector to examine cotton merely stored in the godowns of native or other merchants not having any gin or press for compressing cotton, and which cotton, it is intended to send to Bombay for sale or otherwise as the case may be. There does not certainly appear to be any great amount of good to be gained by examining such cotton under the circumstances here represented. The presses, public places for cotton sales, and the exporting bunders are the proper localities for the visits of the Inspectors in order to carry out efficiently the provisions of the Cotton Frauds Act. Neither does the Act appear to allow of suspected cotton already shipped in native or other vessels for transit to other ports being examined by the Government Inspector; and upon this point Major Lambert, the Collector of Kurrachee, whom I consulted, agreed with me that it was doubtful whether the Inspector had this power. I have deemed it necessary to mention these matters, as it may probably be found necessary to take them into future consideration.

18. In Section XII. of the Act Inspectors are empowered to seize all adulterated, &c., cotton, and to give such into the custody of the police, who are bound to assist the Inspector in seizing and detaining such cotton. As, however, policemen are not at all times available, I would beg to be allowed to suggest that the licensed press-owner or his servant or agent might also be empowered to assist in reason Inspectors of cotton under the circumstances mentioned in Section XII.

19. No other modifications of the Act would seem, in my opinion, to be necessary; but in order to check the practice, which is said to be rife in Bombay, of largely adulterating Oomrawuttee cotton with the better descriptions from Scind and the Punjab, and then palming off the mixture as pure Oomrawuttee, I would beg to suggest that every bale or package of cotton leaving this *in bulk* for Bombay should be marked with the shipper's name, and should have also the quality and description of the cotton marked on it in English. Unlike the cotton bales from the Southern States of America, which can, in cases of fraud, be traced by certain marks to the very plantation where the cotton was grown and packed, Indian packages are made up of contributions from a number of small cultivators; hence it would seem, under the circumstances, that the shipper alone can be made answerable for the quality of the cotton he exports to

other places. All *pressed* bales can be traced to the place only where they were compressed for shipment; but, as the owner's or agent's initials are also marked on the outside, it is a question whether the plan of marking the quality and description of the cotton contained in them is necessary. At Liverpool when put up for sale a sample taken out of a percentage of the bales is held to be a true sample of their contents, but should any of the bales when afterwards opened out be found to be inferior to this sample, a deduction is always made by the purchaser from the money he has to pay for them. As regards, however, cotton in bulk sent to Bombay, I would strongly recommend that every package or "doera" should be marked as mentioned above.

IV.—Charges of Inspection and Fees received on Exported Pressed Bales.

20. An establishment to assist the Inspector of Cotton for Scind was not sanctioned till 7th March last, and immediately on receipt of the Chief Inspector's letter containing this sanction I entertained one moonshee on a salary of Rs. 35, and five peons on 8 Rs. each per mensem. On the 24th March the peons, for whom rules had already been prepared, commenced work, one of them being stationed at the only press then in operation from 6 A. M. to 5 P. M., with instructions to watch all cotton brought to the presses for compression during my absence, while two others were placed upon certain beats in the town and elsewhere for the purpose of getting all possible information regarding fresh arrivals of cotton by Railway from up-country, the quantity sent to the bunder for shipment, &c. Reports were also directed to be furnished to me daily by the peons, and they were after a time changed about from one station to another as seemed necessary.

21. As soon as the MacLeod Road presses commenced work in June last, I stationed a peon there, whose duties were similar to those performed by the peon placed at the Bunder presses; and I am decidedly of opinion that wherever any new cotton press may be established it will at all times be necessary to have a peon stationed there from morning till evening as some check against attempted malpractices on the part of dishonest men offering cotton for compression during the Inspector's absence. I cannot speak with any degree of confidence of the men I am obliged to employ on this duty, as I find the class of peons in Kurrachee very different both in work and respectability from those I have met with in other parts of the Bombay

Presidency. I have, however, by constant changing managed at last to secure a pretty fair selection ; but I take every opportunity of frequently removing them from one press to another and not keeping them too long at any one station.

22. In the following table I have entered the cost every month of the entire inspectorial establishment, including postage expenses, from August last, as in that month all Inspectors were disallowed the power of franking their official letters :—

Month.	Inspector's pay, &c.	Establishment and contingent charges.	Total.	Remarks.
1864.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
February..	717 10 10	Nil.	717 10 10	Includes Inspr.'s pay from 17th to 31st January.
March.. ..	550 0 0	35 2 7	585 2 7	
April.. ..	550 0 0	105 7 7	655 7 7	
May.. ..	575 12 4	100 8 0	676 4 4	Inclusive of batta at Rs. 200 per mensem.
June.. ..	550 0 0	100 4 10	650 4 10	
July.. ..	550 0 0	100 14 7	650 14 7	
August. ..	550 0 0	92 0 4	642 0 4	
September	550 0 0	85 12 8	635 12 8	
October...	550 0 0	84 7 10	634 7 10	
November.	550 0 0	83 9 7	633 9 7	
	5,693 7 2	788 4 0	6,481 11 2	

This aggregate does not include the sum of Rs. 40 paid for the material and making up of four peons' coats as directed in Chief Inspector's letter No. 163 of 14th May last, and which is to be recovered from the recipients by a monthly deduction from their pay at the rate of 4 per cent. It will thus take nearly three years before each peon can pay for his coat, and by that time, or long before, it will be quite worn out and a new one required. The fact of having to pay for his own warm clothing has deterred in a measure some men from accepting service under the Inspector, and as this description of clothing is allowed in the Government service, they naturally ask why they should have to pay for it in the Cotton Department. I would, therefore, beg to be informed whether this sum of Rs. 40 cannot be debited to the Cotton Department as a contingent charge and the clothing be required to last as long as is the case with peons directly in the Government service.

23. In order to show that the fees realized from all pressed bales exported from Kurrachee to foreign ports according to

Section XIII. of the Act have in their aggregate exceeded the cost of inspection, and that, notwithstanding the great stagnation in the cotton trade during the past three months, the number of pressed bales exported this year has been very much in excess of those so sent in 1863, I beg to append the following table as bearing out this statement :—

Month.	Pressed bales exported in 1865.	Pressed bales exported in 1864.	Fees realized.	Remarks.
			Rs. a.	
January..	1,133	1,799	Nil.	Act not in force.
February	613	2,408	602 0	
March	Nil.	2,402	600 8	
April	12	4,056	1,014 0	
May.....	930	6,183	1,545 12	
June	2,746	7,814	1,953 8	
July	5,611	3,224	106 0	
August	3,268	4,318	1,079 8	
September..	2,179	3,007	751 12	
October	841	1,827	281 12	
November..	173	909	227 4	
December	898	.....	.. ..	Estimate given below.
	19,114	37,247	8,862 0	

During this present month (December) the number of pressed bales likely to be exported, should the price of cotton still rise, may be put down at between 3,000 and 4,000 thus making an aggregate of about 40,000 pressed bales exported since January last, paying in fees between 9,000 and 10,000 Rs.; while the total expenses are not likely to exceed 7,000 Rs., thus leaving an estimated available balance of about 3,000 Rs. to the Cotton Improvement Fund. Had the price of cotton ruling during the first six months of the year continued, a much larger number of exported pressed bales might have been safely looked for, and in consequence a heavier revenue from fees. The large quantity of 40,000 bales, containing on an average quite 15,700,000 lbs., will nevertheless represent at *one shilling* per pound a money value amounting to £785,000 or nearly 80 laks of Rupees.

24. While commenting upon the subject of exportation of cotton from Scind I would beg to be permitted to add one other tabular statement pointing out the difference in the quantities

of cotton *in bulk* sent to Bombay during the last and present years, and showing the smaller amount shipped for that port since May last when the Cotton Frauds Act came fully into play, and in consequence the *lessened* liability, it would seem to me, to that extensive adulteration at Bombay of Oomrawuttee and Dhollera cottons with the better sorts of Scind which had been so much complained of by English merchants generally—

Month.	Cotton exported in bulk to Bombay in			
	1863.		1864.	
	Cwts.	lbs.	Cwts.	lbs.
January	25,853	61	20,035	45
February	42,677	94	40,746	56
March	48,726	90	29,536	97
April	44,365	67	32,183	75
May	27,854	..	9,731	26
June	5,479	70	1,354	76
July	11,248	84	1,545	..
August	13,685	28	2,521	60
September	40,713	57	6,369	32
October	29,139	28	3,300	56
November	16,143	28	522	28
December	15,886	...	say 1,000	...
	3,21,773	47	1,48,846	103

The total quantity in pounds weight sent in 1863 is thus a little over 36 millions, while up to 30th November of this present year it is but 16½ millions, and if to this 1,000 cwts. be added as the probable quantity likely to be sent to Bombay during the present month it will only make an aggregate of not quite 16¾ million pounds or less than half that sent to Bombay in 1863.

V.—Proceedings and Suggestions for the Improvement of Scind Cotton.

25. It requires but a very slight acquaintance with Scind and Punjaub cotton to tell that as it is a short-stapled indigenous variety but little, if any, enquiry will be made for it in the Home markets, unless at very low prices so soon as a sufficiency of longer-stapled cotton can be obtained elsewhere; but as Scind

undoubtedly possesses land well suited for the cultivation of the staple, the only way for it to retain a permannent hold on the English and Continental markets would be to introduce the cultivation of a longer-stapled cotton than that now grown, and so gradually to prevent, if possible, this latter from being sown in such large quantities as before.

26. As an opportunity presented itself of obtaining some good and fresh Dharwar acclimatized American seed from the proprietor of the Albion Printing Press in Kurrachee, who had received a large quantity, from Dr. Forbes, the Cotton Commissioner, I wrote in August last to all the Collectors and Political Superintendents in charge of districts in Scind, advising them that such seed was for sale, and forwarding a sample of it with all necessary information as to cost, &c. Two applications for the seed were soon after received, one from Colonel Green, Political Superintendent of Upper Scind Frontier, for 10 cwts. to be supplied by March next, and the other from Captain Tyrwhitt, Political Superintendent Thurr and Parkur, for about 7 cwts. to be sent without delay. This latter quantity has been supplied to Captain Tyrwhitt at the rate of Rupees 15 per cwt., and will, it is expected, be all sown in his districts in the coming season. No applications for seed from the Collectors of Hydrabad or Shikarpore have as yet been received.

27. As all experiments with New Orleans, Sea Island, and Egyptian cotton seed do not appear to have succeeded in Scind generally, more especially in the northern and drier parts of the Province, I wrote in September last to the Secretary of the Cotton Supply Association at Manchester requesting to be supplied with some Peruvian Brazilian, and a little Egyptian seed for distribution among the Collectors and Political Superintendents of this Province. I have great hopes that the first-named variety (Peruvian) will be found to suit the dry and arid climate of Upper Scind far better than any other kind, and this mainly from the great similarity to a certain extent in the climates of Upper Scind and some parts of Peru. Both are noted for long seasons of excessive dryness, while in the former the rainfall is scanty and in Peru is altogether unknown. If, therefore, the Peruvian species—which possesses a staple ranking next to Sea Island and Egyptian, its mean length being 1.30 inches and is, moreover, high-priced in the markets—be but found suitable to districts which hitherto on account of excessive dryness have only grown the present short-stapled variety, it will offer some inducement to the Scindee to abandon the cultivation of the short-stapled cotton and take to that of the better paying long-

stapled description. On receipt of a favourable reply from the Secretary to the Cotton Supply Association I purpose forwarding to Colonel Green at Jacobabad and to the Collector of Shikarpore such quantities of the Peruvian seed as I may receive for trial there in the coming season. The Brazilian and Egyptian kinds will be reserved as being better suited to the moister districts of Lower Scind, which to some extent receive the benefit of the sea-breeze.

28. But it is not in the introduction a longer stapled description of cotton that the cotton-growing districts of Scind can be considered as completely benefited. The *cleaning* of the indigenous cotton now grown in Scind is, I find, from 7 or 8 months' experience, very imperfect, and it generally comes to the market dirty and full of leaf. There is, I believe, not a single cotton saw-gin anywhere at work throughout the Province, and as I found that some gins of American manufacture were for sale here at reasonable prices at the godowns of Messrs. Farnham & Co. I tested their capabilities with some "exotic" kuppas grown at the Mulleer, as well as with some "indigenous" Scind kuppas kindly furnished me by Major Phillips, Collector of Hydrabad, and having made careful notes of the quantity of cotton they could clean in a given time I wrote to all the Collectors and Political Superintendents in Scind, informing them of the fact of such saw-gins being for sale, their price, the quantity of *clean* cotton they could turn out per hour, together with such other information as I thought would be useful. I have already received replies from Colonel H. Green and from Major Dunsterville, Collector of Shikarpore; the former giving, however, but slight hopes of success in his district, as the people were both too poor and averse to use such machines, but the Collector of Shikarpore is more sanguine, and will ake every opportunity of inducing the more enterprising of the zemindars of his districts to purchase some of these saw-gins. Colonel Green has, however, made an excellent suggestion regarding the introduction of these machines, which might, I think, be well carried out in the first instance at the expense of the Cotton Improvement Fund. I beg to quote that part of his letter referring to this subject. "I would suggest that Government be solicited to place at the disposal of the Collector of Shikarpore a few gins to be set up wherever the cotton is mostly cultivated, and the zemindars should be encouraged to send their cotton to be cleaned at first *gratis*, and when they had ocular proof that cotton cleaned by this process fetched a higher price in the market than that uncleaned, a small sum might be charged to

cover expenses, and by these means some enterprising individuals might be induced to set up a steam one." If one or two saw-gins could be thus placed at the disposal of the Collector or Political Superintendent of every cotton-growing district in Scind, and the plan proposed be carried out, it would, I feel sure, have a future good effect.

29. I consider it necessary in this report to make known to you the efficient assistance I have at all times received from the Kardar of Kurrachee, Mr. Ramchunder Kasinath, in matters connected with my department, and this was specially valuable to me for the first few months after my arrival at Kurrachee and until I had gained a little experience for myself. For these services I would beg to recommend his receiving a money present of Rupees 200 to be paid from the "Cotton Improvement Fund," and I would further request your advocacy in bringing this proposition to the notice of Government.

30. In recapitulation of the above the following will, I think, be considered as the most important points bearing on the subject of cotton:—1. The satisfactory working, on the whole, of Bombay Act IX. of 1863, so far as Scind is concerned, for preventing fraud, as but little adulteration of any kind has been discovered up to this present date, but the necessity that appears to exist for a few modifications to increase its efficiency, and for prescribing certain rules to be observed by all licensed press-owners. 2. The satisfactory fact of the receipts from fees on exported pressed bales having exceeded the aggregate inspectoron expenses. 3. The necessity for introducing, if possible, into Scind, in place of the present short-stapled indigenous kinds, such "exotic" varieties of cotton as may be found best suited to the soil and climate,—that is to say, Peruvian for Upper Scind, and Brazilian, Egyptian, and perhaps New Orleans, for Lower Scind. And, 4, the importance of inducing wealthy and enterprising cotton growers and buyers to purchase saw-gins for themselves in the districts, so that a more merchantable description of cotton may be turned out and sent in good condition from the inland districts to the port of exportation.

REPORT *by* P. W. HEWETT, *Esq., Cotton Inspector in Khandeish, dated 10th January* 1865.

In accordance with your Circular, No. 338, dated the 19th ultimo, I have the honour to submit a Report of the past year's proceedings in the district under my charge.

2. I regret not having been able to submit this report earlier; but you are aware, how unexpected illness for the last 20 days has kept me from my desk, so that I feel sure you will make due allowances both for the delay and for brevity where I had hoped to have made the report a full and complete one.

3. As you have not restricted us to any particular form, I purpose first to account for my own movements, proceedings and experiences, and then to go into general matter coming under the working of the Frauds Act and the cotton question generally.

4. I joined my appointment on the 5th April last year, relieving Mr. Showell, transferred to Bombay. The season was too far advanced to require much of my presence in the districts. I, therefore, confined my attention more to the line of railway, where, at almost every station, thousands of bales of cotton had found, or were finding, their way for transmission to Bombay. Here too, extensive business was being daily done, for the facilities afforded by the regular post and the railway telegraph brought the provincial market prices to within five and ten rupees a candy of that prevailing at Bombay. Thus there was a wide field to check fraud, adulteration by mixture, &c.

5. There was great activity and confidence in the district trade, arising as much from the improved *condition* of the staple as from other causes, it having unquestionably been better cleaned, cared for, and packed under the salutary effects of the working of Act IX. of 1863, than had obtained during previous years. Indeed, in such dread was the Act and the supervision of its officers held, that where dealers were supplied with dirtier cotton than usual, the bales were immediately rejected, the purchaser at once employing the Act against the seller by informing or threatening to inform, against the latter, lest they, the former, might be considered owners of actionable cotton! A most healthy tone was thus infused into the trade, at once showing that the Act was perceptibly working good against adulterations, or want of care, in sending cotton into the market.

6. Much of the credit for this improved state of things is due to my predecessor, who arriving in the province in January last, so soon after the promulgation of the Act, was enabled to go completely through the districts, explaining its provisions and acquainting the ryots with the views of Government; the district officers, too, had evinced praiseworthy interest and energetic action in keeping up vigilant supervision everywhere over the produce and its treatment.

7. As the season advanced towards cultivation I took up my head quarters at Dhurumgaum most centrical, and thence visited all the villages and fields within reach, urging the ryots to adopt every care, and pointing out in what lay their special interests as cotton growers. Though dealers and agents held aloof from extravagant advances, such as had been lavished the previous two or three years on the cultivators, the latter in no way took alarm, but with their own increased means sowed a larger area than before. The season has not, however, been a fortunate one. At first there was the fairest promise of great success, but the rains proved treacherous, and entirely held off when most needed by the crops. These became impoverished and produced undeveloped balls. Then in November came heavy wind accompanied by ruinous rain, shaking the cotton off the plant and saturating the wool on the ground, discoloring and otherwise damaging it. The destruction and loss is not, however, so great as was expected, and the out-turn may be said to be about one-fourth less altogether. The greatest misfortune has yet to be mentioned, viz. the low and downward tendency in the price of the staple, which has spread alarm and loss to the ryot, and which will, if not rallying at the close of the season seriously affect and check this year's cultivation, which had no doubt overgrown itself. The area covered could not be attended efficiently, while the less growing of good grains brought about famine prices, raising the value of labour, already scarce and dear.

8. During the monsoons I applied myself, travelling being impracticable in the districts, to the study of all correspondence and instructions relating to the Cotton Frauds Act, as well as to a careful perusal of the hand-books of cotton published by the Governments of Bengal and Madras. I am not aware, at all events was unable to procure such a compilation of this Presidency. I was also permitted to visit Bombay on duty, to acquaint myself of the working of cotton presses, and in company with one of the Sub-Inspectors to learn the duties attached to this branch of the department.

9. As soon as the monsoon ceased, I moved out and have been going through the districts, as may be seen from the diaries. The more important questions which have engaged my attention during this tour have been, first, that of the detention of Juggonath Ramjee's cotton at Malligaum by the magisterial authorities. The result of this case was conveyed in my special report,

No. 75 of the 4th December last, which renders repetition here unnecessary, except in noticing the question of the principle of judicial procedure which arose out of it, and from other cases where action was taken without the knowledge and independent of this department, and the Act under which seizure and trial could alone be sanctioned and prosecuted. The Collector and Magistrate on my representation, No 71, dated 25th November (copy furnished for your information on the 24th ultimo) has ruled and ordered that all proceedings taken by Mamlutdars and their superior officers must, as far as practicable, be in communication with the Cotton Inspector of the district, and in every case he should be furnished with the particulars of each. This removes all chance of collision between the two departments, and effectually checks the exercise of any undue authority or proceeding on the part of Mamlutdars and subordinate officials not directly under the control of the Cotton Inspector of the district. On the other hand it would be impossible to expect that a *single* Inspector could be everywhere ready to answer to reference, or to be associated in the trial and prosecution of every case, without obstructing and delaying it. Nor does it appear by Section XVI. and its provison that information must necessarily emanate from the Inspector's department "or by some other person" would and does allow action distinct from this department. To meet this I shall further on while suggesting better efficiency by extended and increased agency, submit the proposition I have in view for your consideration and approval.

10. Another matter of equal interest and importance, which comes under review, was that of the appeal of cultivators and local dealers with reference to the orders of the Collector, which directed the separate picking of cotton throughout the district wherever the crops grown were from the mixed seed sowings. This was found almost impossible, and I was besieged with petitions. The fields were mostly left unpicked, and the local dealers refused to accept, or purchase cotton believed to be actionable. I waited on the Collector personally, and also represented by letter, No. 70, dated 25th November (copy furnished for your information on the 24th ultimo) that, if the order could not be entirely cancelled, some modification was absolutely necessary, much as I wished to uphold and carry out his orders. The Collector was here also induced to greatly modify orders which had, perhaps, been too literally interpreted by the native officials, whose excessive zeal thus led to thwart the best and most commendable intentions for the prevention of mixed seed crops and the much-needed improvement in the

quality of the staple. However much it may be desirable not to enforce remedial measures in connection with cotton cultivation, and so laid down by Government prohibiting interference, how stands the ryot with his mixed and deteriorated cotton in the market at this moment? *It has scarcely any demand at half the rate which Berar cotton obtains*! A sad and serious fact, at which the self-interest of the ryot is now fully roused and alive. For years past there has been none other than mixed seed in the province, and the time has come when Khandeish must give up cotton as remuneration produce, or obtain and sow such seed as will make it so. The ryot must either do this or it must be done for him—the better if he seeks this voluntarily—and it is with the utmost satisfaction I am able to report that, in consultaion with the Collector, I proceeded to take the feeling of the whole district on the subject of a supply of pure seed. All, with the exception of one or two talookas near West Berar, have eagerly jumped at the opportunity of getting good and pure seed which they now beg may be supplied them. Their choice has fallen upon Khangaum and its neighbourhood, the cotton of which place commands, and ever has, a ready market at enhanced prices. Government cannot, of course, advance moneys or guarantee protection concessions. Nor has this been solicited. In a matter involving the interests of all local dealers there were not wanting men ready to co-operate and supply the required quantity of seed. Without, therefore, the employment of aught else but an appeal to the people, by suggestion and advice, a great and lasting good has been obtained. Arrangements have been matured, and by 1st proximo the first supplies will be under distribution, should the same success attend our efforts in establishing all the essential of greater care in cultivation, in timely picking, in secure storing, in better cleaning, and safer packing, and I see no reason to doubt the ryots' willingness and ability towards every improvement. Khandeish will stand high in estimation next year for its improved staple and superior condition.

11. If I have dwelt at length on this one subject, it has by no means been exhausted, and the natural interest I feel in all which gives promise of improvement and success in the districts under my charge as creditable to the Chief Cotton Inspector's Department as to all concerned, must plead as my earnest devotion to the cause. I claim no special merit; my intercourse with the native from childhood, with an almost perfect knowledge of his language, gives me perhaps exceptional advantages.

12. I have just observed that the subject had not been exhausted. Let me explain myself more fully. I mean with regard to the important and urgent necessity of introducing a better quality of cotton into this province. It could not be worse than what now forms the produce of the district. Its market value supplies us with unanswerable proof. On the other hand we see ginning factories, screw presses, old roads put in better order, new ones opening up everywhere, and, greatest of all, the railway traversing the entire length of the land right through the very heart and centre of magnificent fields. Is it no consideration, then, to respond to these great facilities and improvements, so materially aiding the best interest of the cotton trade, by doing all that can be done to produce a staple worthy of recognition? It is on this account, therefore, that our best acknowledgments are due to the Collector for his necessary efforts to bring about the desired object, and to the people under his administration who have so willingly and readily responded to them. I may, therefore, I trust, be pardoned for the length at which I have dwelt on this particular question, in which lie our best hopes, our chief aim, in enabling Khandeish cotton for the future to hold its own in the market, and seeing the ryot's labour return him some guarantee of certain profits from successful crops.

13. As the Dharwar American cotton stands in such high estimation it may be asked, why it should not be adopted here? Somehow it does not take with cultivators, former experiments failed, and as interference is prohibited and entirely optional with the ryot to sow what seed he likes, it is perhaps wiser policy to accept what they desire as improvement and hope for better hereafter; they have shown they are not averse or opposed to advice and suggestion, and I think I may guarantee every fair trial with a small quantity of Dharwar American seed if Dr. Forbes would supply me in time for next sowings.

14. I shall now discuss the working of the Cotton Frauds Act, which, though in itself not powerful enough and insufficient to meet carelessness, which is akin to fraud where intentional, has from its very incompleteness done immense good. It was received as intended to do good, and its reception throughout was satisfactory. It curiously enough caused greater effect on the dealer than on the ryot. The latter from apathy and indifference had habitually become careless and insensible to best or any exertions, from the mere fact that the dealer put no restraint or check on him,—indeed may be said to be the cause of all the mischief. Quality or condition was no object so long

as he got what he wanted at the lowest possible figure. The ryot took the key ; reverencing time-honoured customs he cherished indebtedness to the dealer (his banker) and revelled in listless laziness. He scarcely plougned his fields, and threw in the seed at random, the crops were unweeded, and when they did ripen, the produce was allowed to fall and lie on the ground, and scarcely ever picked or gathered until pressed for by the dealer. This is no exaggerated picture, and entirely in keeping with what the greater broker or agent does at the chief export marts at the three Presidencies. (*Vide* Cotton Hand Book, being a digest of all available information, published under orders of the Government of India, pages 10 to 16.) The evidence collected here is most damaging, and I make reference to it to show how even, since Government has now deemed it desirable to legislate in the matter, it must be difficult for the officers of this department to effect any good if the merchants of Bombay will not co-operate to check adulteration and fraud. So far back as 1839 they applied for Government interference and ; if, as they complain, they are unable to come in direct contact with the cultivator, and helpless from their dishonesty or unwillingness of their brokers, (*see* C. H. B. pages 12 and 13) why not, as was suggested the other day by a member of the Chamber, establish a system of samples ? The Government Cotton Inspectors in the districts could easily submit, every season, a sample from each talooka of churka and gin-cleaned cotton, and to this might be awarded prizes, for the best and cleanest wool, from our local Cotton Improvement Fund, and special prizes from the Chamber of Commerce. All concerned and interested could thus have a test check against malpractices in the market. Of the ways and means adopted by the badly disposed, a whole book might be written ; and there is no doubt that if success is to attend our efforts in the improvement of the quality and condition in the staple, it must originate with the cultivator, who will in time learn to feel his better position. That the working of the Act has already influenced the local dealer and the ryot, for their interests are identical, the best proof I can offer is, that not a single instance of fraudulent adulteration has come under the notice of this department in this district. Not that there has been less supervision or vigilance than elsewhere, but Act IX. of 1863 has been received in good faith, and all are disposed to avoid its consequences. This is, perhaps, more satisfactory than if I had arrests, seizures, and convictions to record ; for where there is an apparent absence of evil there is the greater hope of improvement.

15. I will now pass on to the question, whether the present agency is sufficient to meet requirements for the complete suppression of adulteration, fraud, &c. I am of opinion it is not. Let me draw your attention to some important facts. First there is the magnitude of the province itself, having 19 talookas covering an area of cotton cultivation amounting to in 1863-64 (returns for this season not in yet) 4,72,738 acres, and yielding 71,417 candies of produce, of which the cleaned amount is 20,014 candies of 784 lbs. each. The cultivation this season exceeded the above by at least one-fourth, though the out-turn will, perhaps be the same from unfavourable rains.

I have next to notice the geographical position of the province as an outlet for the North-West and Central India Provinces. There is the great trunk road *via* Indore and Mhow by which thousands of carts and camels annually find their way into Khandeish. There is the railway penetrating by two lines into Central India; and until these lines are complete throughout, hundreds of thousands of bales are brought into Khandeish to the railway stations, where, as before remarked in paragraph 4, extensive business is daily being transacted by Bombay agents, to whom access is easy by rail, and receipt of telegraph news and orders helps almost completely to do the whole business of the Presidency merchants up here.

To this, if I may be allowed to add the fact of anumber of presses being under construction throughout the line of railway stations in the province, I think I may say that a far greater field for operation exists than one Inspector could successfully compete with.

I would respectfully propose then, keeping in view that the subordinate magisterial officers are not fairly eligible for the detective duties of an Inspector under the Cotton Frauds Act, and as Government itself deemed it best to create a distinct department, that whatever increased agency, if sanctioned, should also be distinct, for which other reasons might be urged if necessary, such for instance as to the power of Mamlutdars to act independently of the District Cotton Inspector supported by their immediate superiors which would bring the departments into opposition. My proposition, therefore, is that each talooka should have its own Inspector entirely under the control of the District Inspector, their proceedings and reports coming through the Mamlutdars the same as the District Inspector's reaching his chief through the Collector. Weekly intelligence from all parts of the province could thus be received and acted upon. A properly organised and well-conducted establishment under

this arrangement, with an active, energetic district head, would be most effectual. Should this plan be approved of, either in whole or modified as to numbers, I would furnish further details as to salary, &c.; under any circumstances I would seek the appointment of one, if not two, sub-European Assistant Inspectors—the one to surpervise the great traffic down the Agra and Indore road, the other to be constantly on the line of railway whenever as I must often be from the extent of country to be travelled, away from the line in the districts.

Should what I have stated appear presumptuous or exaggerated I respectfully beg to enclose the following official extracts as bearing pertinently on what I have sought to draw your consideration:—

RISE IN COTTON.

Memorandum on the effect of the Rise in Cotton upon the Manufactured Articles.

(From the Gazette of India.)

"14. *Exports from the North-West taking the road to Bombay instead of to Calcutta.*—The Government of the North-West Provinces also intimates that the exports of the raw material are likewise taking a westerly route, and the return carriages will be laden with English manufactures. It appears that most of the cotton grown in the Nort-West Provinces, as well as that grown in the adjacent States of Bundelkund and Rajpootana, is at present transmitted *via* Allahabad to Calcutta; in 1863, however, some cotton was exported from Hattras *via* Delhi and Umritsur to Kurrachee for shipment at that port. The expriment was not repeated this year, probably because it was not found to answer. Last year, again, some cotton was exported from Hattras and Agra to Bombay and this experiment appears to have succeeded. This year the exportation in this direction has largely increased; 450,000 lbs. have been dispatched from Hattras to Bombay *via* Indore; and by the same route 600,000 lbs. have been exported from the Muttra district; 100,000 lbs. have also been sent from Mirzapore, partly by Indore and partly by Oomrawuttee, and about the same quantity from Calpee *via* Jhansee and Indore. A considerable quantity was also dispatched from the southern parts of Bundelkund *via* Jubbulpore and Oomrawuttee to Bombay, and it is said that this circuitous route was taken in order to avoid the exactions of the Gwalior officials. In a word, the tide of cotton which, in all previous years, had flowed upwards from Central India to Mirzapore and Calcutta, has fairly set in the direction of Bombay."

"19. *Increase demand for English manufactures in the Central Provinces.*—In the Central Provinces the demand for English cotton goods has greatly increased rather than diminished, a circumstance which is probably mainly due to the efforts which have been made within the last three years to open up the country. Meantime the scarcity and high price of cotton has nearly ruined the manufacture of coarse cloth, and has in some degree affected the manufacture of finer fabrics. The out-turn of cotton crop for 1863-64 was expected to reach 37 millions of pounds, which seems to be an enormous quantity when compared with the estimated out-turn of eight millions of pounds expected in the North-West Provinces; and of this aggregate of 37 millions of pounds it is expected that between six and seven millions would be retained for local consumption."

"7. *Extent of cotton cultivation in the North-West Provinces.*—In the Nort-West Provinces the cotton crops are destined almost entirely for exportation. The proportion of the cotton retained for domestic use is variously estimated at from one-fourth to one-sixth; and thus taking the whole of the produce of those provinces at eight millions of pounds, it may be assumed that only about a million and a half or two millions of pounds are consumed in the several cotton-growing districts."

The first extract shows that all cotton from the N. W. P. and Central India is finding its way to Bombay. It can only do so through Khandeish, availing itself of rail transit by the nearest station off the line of road communication. We next have the quantity some 40 millions of pounds or 50,000 candies. This speaks for itself, and as gins and presses get established, half the work of Bombay would be done up here. It is to be prepared to meet this very great responsibility that my proposition is put forward, which I now leave to your better judgment, satisfied that the importance of the question will receive your best and liberal consideration.

16. As I have just dwelt on the great cotton traffic through Khandeish it occurs to me that a most complete return might be obtained by the railway furnishing a statement of their carriage over the Thull Ghat now that the line is open, and by your having a departmental check on what may pass down on carts. A karkoon and a peon would suffice. It may appear unnecessary, but cotton does so go. From an entry in my diary on the 6th instant "I find 21 carts, eight bales each, from Khangaum in Berar and within a few miles of the railway, passed this place *enroute* to Bhewndy; they were hired for Rs. 30

each and were to do the journey in 15 days; they were return carts having taken up salt." This is a nice little question for the Railway Company to look into.

17. You have kindly permitted us to mention the names of any of the native officials of the district who may have done good service by co-operating and assisting us. I beg earnestly to mention that of the Mamlutdar of Erundole with 1st class powers; he has been of the greatest service to me, and from whom I may justly acknowledge to have derived much local information. He has always evinced a lively interest in the improvement of cotton wool, and is well informed. He speaks English. I had intended to have made a special report to the Collector, seeking some recognition and reward for this native gentleman, but am glad of this very favourable opportunity. The other Mamlutdars have also co-operated, and I may mention that of Nusseerabad and Amulnair for favourable notice.

18. I regret I am unable to supply any statistical statements, as there has not been time, or rather too early in the season for my being furnished with them. I regret, too, that my untoward illness prevents my submitting a map of the Collectorate, showing the area of cotton cultivation in each talooka, with the trunk and chief village roads of communication leading to the railway stations, which I had begun as an accompaniment to this report.

19. In conclusion, I would seek your favourable consideration whether the extent and importance of my charge, as set forth in this report, and as seen by yourself personally, could not be put on the highest rate of pay allowed, viz. Rs. 1,000. I joined on the smallest, and have been nearly a year in the department, while others since joining have entered on higher. I have endeavoured to do my duty with all my heart and to the best of my ability, which is in your power to reward if you think my efforts to give satisfaction deserving of such.

I regret that my report is not nearer, more perfect and complete than as I hoped to make it; but it was only by snatching half an hour here and there I was able to get through it at all, as my demi-officials must have informed you, and I am ashamed of the corrections and interpolations. The acute pains under which I suffered must be my excuse; I am not well yet.

Hoping for a favourable acknowledgment of the report such as it is.

No. 79 of 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To F. S. CHAPMAN, Esq.,
Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th ultimo, forwarding for the information of the Chamber six printed Copies of the extract from the proceedings of Government No. 699, dated 20th February last, relative to the report on the general results of the working of the Cotton Frauds Act during the past year.

2. The working of this Act was considered at a General Meeting of the Chamber held on the 23rd ultimo when the following resolution was agreed to:—"that though in the opinion of the Chamber there has been less admixture of foreign substances since the Cotton Frauds Act came into operation, the equally or even greater evil of mixing varieties of cotton has in no way diminished and the cost of the working of the Act is disproportionate to any advantage derived from it."

3. In placing this resolution before His Excellency the Governor in Council I am directed to draw the attention of Government to the fact that the Act is found to be inoperative when attempted to be put in force for the punishment of one of the principal evils which it was expected to cure.

4. In support of this statement I have to adduce the following facts:

Two months ago a quantity of cotton was seized at a cotton screwing press in the Fort of Bombay by one of the cotton Inspectors, and Mr. Bulkley, Chief Inspector, applied to the Chamber to appoint two of its Members to examine the cotton that had been seized.

5. Two Members of the Committee having great experience in cotton gave their services for this purpose.

6. When they came to examine the cotton that had been seized they found that it was adulterated in a very scandalous manner: all the docras examined having been found to contain fine new cotton outside, but the interior filled with old and very inferior cotton of the same variety and they gave a certificate accordingly.

7. The Chief Cotton Inspector then summoned the offending parties before a Magistrate of Police. When the case came on for hearing one of the Members of Committee who had examined the cotton attended the Court. The adulteration was clearly proved, and also that from the marks on the docras, the cotton could have been in no other person's possession than that of the dealers who sold the cotton in Bombay.

8. The case, however, broke down for two reasons:—first because the act states that only the adulteration of different varieties in one bale is fraudulent adulteration, and in this particular case the evidence only went to prove that old and new cotton of the same variety had been mixed.

9. Second. There was no evidence to prove that the dealer had fraudulently mixed the cotton, no one was brought forward to prove that he had been seen in the act of doing so, and thus though there was no doubt of fraudulent adulteration it could not be brought home to any particular person.

10. The Magistrate was asked if no one could be convicted under the Act, unless caught in the act of adulterating, however clear the case might otherwise be, and his answer was that he believed not.

11. Another and more recent case of seizure for adulteration was brought to the notice of the Chamber. It occurred at Karwar, where the Inspector of cotton seized some bales after they had been screwed.

12. The agent of the owner of the cotton, however, in this case, pleaded that the cotton which had been seized was old and of inferior quality and not adulterated, and so nothing could be made of it.

13. The Committee greatly fear that cases of this sort, where the act is invoked to punish offenders and yet fails to convict when they are brought to trial, may in the end lead to its being treated with contempt.

14. Though it is not the intention of the Committee on the present occasion to remark on the report of the Chief Inspector of Cotton which Government did them the honour to supply copies of with your letter under acknowledgment, yet as the resolution which I have the honour to lay before Government especially notices the disproportionate cost of the Cotton Frauds Act as compared with any advantage derived from its practical

working, I am directed to call attention to the views expressed on this point by the Chief Inspector in the 25th para. of the report in question.

15. In this para. the Inspector remarks in reference to the tax of 4 annas per bale and the opinion of the Chamber that it ought to be reduced—"as the fee (4 annas) though amounting to a large sum is intrinsically small and practically is levied from the manufacturers at home and not the merchants of Bombay, I do not suppose that the latter seriously desire its reduction, as a precautionary measure I would not recommend such a course at present."

16. The Inspector in the paragraph partially quoted, appears to labour under more than one misconception. It is because the fee in question is intrinsically small though a large sum in the aggregate that it falls not upon the manufacturer or the producer but entirely on the merchant who is the exporter; and the merchant has good reason for objecting to the fee however small being continued at any higher rate than covers the actual cost of the working of the Act: nor are his objections to the fee at its present rate likely to be removed when his experience shows him that it is spent in payment of the machinery for working an act which is found to be useless when its provisions are attempted to be put in force.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, 27th April 1865.

No. 2125 of 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To JAMES TAYLOR, ESQ.,
Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—With reference to your letter No. 79 dated the 27th ultimo, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to state

for the information of the Chamber of Commerce that the fee on cotton has already been reduced from four to three annas a bale, and that Government will consider the propriety of making a still further reduction, if it be found that the receipts exceed the cost of working the Act.

2. Government is glad to find that though the Act has not done all that could be desired in preventing every species of fraud, it has to a perceptible degree, checked the grosser forms of adulteration with foreign substances.

3. In the opinion of His Excellency in Council a part of the failure in the cases noticed by the Chamber of Commerce is due rather to some peculiar views of evidence held by an individual Magistrate than to any defect in the law, which further legislation could remedy, Government will, however, be glad to consider any specific suggestions for amending the law with which the experience of Members of the Chamber may enable them to favor Government.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 18th May 1865.

No. 3313 of 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward to you, for the information of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying copy of an extract from the proceedings of Government on the subject of a report from the Inspector in Chief, Cotton Department, on the past season's operations for the improvement of Cotton.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

No. 3312, dated 1st August 1865.

(Signed) H. E JACOMB,
Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 1st August 1865.

No. 3312.

EXTRACT *from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Revenue Departmet, dated 1st August* 1865.

Read the following papers :—

Letter from H. Bulkley, Esq., Inspector-in-Chief Cotton Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, No. 246, dated 8th July 1865.

Prior to my departure for Europe to-morrow, I do myself the honor to submit a short report on the past season's operations.

2. In November and December last I paid visits of inspection to Guzerat and Khandeish, and in the beginning of March I proceeded "on tour" to Belgaum, Dharwar, and Canara. Whilst travelling through the last named Collectorate I contracted the fever which has necessitated a change to England.

3. From my own observation and the enquires I made wherever I went, I think I am speaking within bounds when I assert that this year's crop appears to be freer from dirt and adulteration than its predecessor. In Khandeish and Guzerat the crops suffered considerably from heavy rain early in November. This, of course, has greatly deteriorated the quality, but the Department cannot in any way be held responsible for defects quite beyond its control, and owing entirely to natural causes. The cotton of the later pickings, I have been informed by merchants here, is very good and pure.

4. More, perhaps, might have been done both in the Southern Mahratta Country and Guzerat had the existing vacancies in the Inspectorships been sooner filled up than they were, but I am very hopeful of the success of the ensuing season's experiments with seed throughout the country generally, and I have no doubt that the efficiency of the Department, and the benefits accruing therefrom to the mercantile community, will be very sensibly felt before long.

5. I would particularly desire to bring to notice the services rendered by the undermentioned Inspectors :—

1. Captain A. T. Moore, Inspector at Ahmedabad, who, although but very recently appointed, has already effected a great deal of good in Ahmedabad, both amongst dealers and press-owners, by his system of inspection, and has given a

stimulus to the cultivation of exotic cotton (Egyptian), which, I am sanguine enough to think, will be attended with the most beneficial results.

2. Mr. Hewett, Inspector of Khandeish, who has ably seconded Mr. Ashburner's endeavours to improve the quality of the produce raised in his Collectorate. Through Mr. Hewett's exertions 30,000 maunds of good Berar seed have been distributed throughout Khandeish, and this without costing the State or the Cotton Frauds Fund, one rupee, a fact very creditable to the Inspector's energy and tact, and going a long way towards disproving Dr. Forbes' assertion as to the suspicious light in which the Officers of the Department are viewed by the Ryots.,

3. Mr. Manley, Inspector of Sholapoor, Ahmednuggur, Sattara and Poona, has traversed the whole of the cotton producing districts in his charge at considerable labour and inconvenience; he has worked hard to extend improvements both in produce and machinery, and if his anticipations are realised his labours will not have been unprofitable.

4. Mr. Hughes, Inspector for Sind, has during the past year, as previously, taken great pains and trouble to introduce better seed and ginning machinery into the Province. I look forward to the result of his experiments with exotic cotton with feelings of confidence. Unfortunately, the sowing season in Sind had passed before Government Resolution No. 2163, dated 20th May 1865, was published, authorizing the grant of advances from the Fraud's Funds for the purchase of seed. Consequently, it was impossible to despatch any quantity in time to be tried this year.

6. The other Inspectors performed their duties to my entire satisfaction in every way, but there are no special circumstances connected with them calling for particular remark.

7. His Excellency the Governor is probably aware that I place great stress on the beneficial results obtainable by Inspectors when made the medium of extending the cultivation of seed, exotic or otherwise, which from its nature is suited to the climate and soil of the districts in their charge, and is far superior in quality to the indigenous crops produced, to say nothing of the improvements which they might introduce into the rude machinery of the country. As to interference on the part of Inspectors with the field operations of the Ryots, which seems to be apprehended by Dr. Forbes, such a course of proceeding is very unlikely to be desired or adopted anywhere, particularly

as at the very time of these operations the Inspectors, being at head quarters, would be far removed from the scene, and unable consequently to exercise any influence, either for good or bad, over the cultivators. I beg to forward, for the inspection of His Excellency the Governor, a Report just received from Captain Moore, which is endorsed by Mr. Oliphant, the Collector, and bears reference not only to this subject, but to the very interesting question of experiments with American seed in Guzerat. I am quite confident that whatever tends to circumscribe the area of fraudulent practices or even careless habits, which in their effects are almost as injurious to the produce of the country, must be acceptable to the persons who are interested in the trade of this produce. By inducing the Ryots through personal advice and suggestion, though by no active *interference* in any way, to sow good seed, and by facilitating the means of their obtaining it, the Inspectors must naturally stand well in the opinion of the cultivators, who, in all probability, will readily listen to their suggestions, and as a consequence evince greater care in picking and preparing for market a superior crop to what till then they have been in the habit of growing. Once appeal to the self-interest of the producer, an improvement will set in steadily but surely. A great proportion of the dirt and so much will be effected towards raising the quality of the cotton produced in the country. The merchants will not object to pay for the means through which this result is obtained, and I trust, therefore, in conclusion, that Government will be pleased to utilise the Department extensively in this respect. If so, I am quite sure that next season a vast improvement will be seen in the cotton crops in this Presidency, and this will continue to be observed every succeeding year.

In conclusion, I request the favor of the accompaniments * being returned, after perusal, to this Office.

Letter from CaptainA. T. Moore, Inspector of Cotton for Ahmeda bad, &c., &c., to H. Bulkley, Esq., Inspector-in-Chief Cotton Department, No. 26, dated 3rd July 1865.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 221, without date. I immediately called on Mr. Oliphant, taking

* No. 26 of 1865, dated 3rd July 1865, from Captain A. T. Moore to the address of Inspector-in-Chief Cotton Department, with its accompaniment.

with me the previous correspondence, as well as the letter under reply.

2. I had a long conversation with him. I am happy to say he seems to have a good opinion of the Egyptian seed, which is of importance, as he appears to have given the subject generally his serious attention.

3. In addition to the probability of the yield being good, both in quantity, and quality, from a crop of Egyptian cotton, Mr. Oliphant informs me that the seed is far more valuable for "feeding" and oil-pressing than the country varieties. This would be a matter of considerable importance to the producer.

4. The Egyptian, he informs me—and I have it corroborated elsewhere—is, as a rule, a sure crop from its own seed. Whilst the American is frequently a failure, this, as I have already observed in a previous letter, would alone be sufficient to condemn the latter, as the Ryot could never afford to pay for a yearly supply of American cotton seed, unless there were some very undoubted counterbalancing advantages, and this evidence and general opinion seems to deny.

5. Mr. Oliphant is also decidedly adverse to the so called "acclimatized" American cotton seed of Dr. Forbes, and informed me that so far from experiments having "satisfactorily" proved as stated by Dr. Forbes, that "this superior description of cotton can be successfully cultivated in * * Guzerat, &c.," that American seed in Guzerat has been a decided failure; amongst other reasons are its incapacity of reproduction, as no reliance can be placed on its seed giving a crop.

6. It was, therefore, agreed in consultation with Mr. Oliphant, that I should request you to send up enough for ten acres, or eighty pounds, as there was no time to find how much might positively be required, in consequence of the near approach of the sowing season.

7. I had previously directed the pressmen to inform any comers to their yards that they could obtain from me foreign cotton of the best quality at local prices; in consequence of this I had an application for 5 Bombay maunds, or 205 lbs., from one man here, who purposes making presents of it in all the neighbouring villages. I also had a conversation with some Ryots at Runchor's press; they expressed their ready willingness to sow it, but said they must "ask permission." On my enquiring from them where they purposed asking, they replied "the Guicowar." It appears, according to their own account, that

they have to pay Rupees 20 per bigah for cotton ground, or rather for a cotton crop. This they asserted more than once, and one man positively stated he had to make up a deficit from his own pocket to raise it to the Rupees 20. They all seemed quite willing to sow the good seed I recommended, instead of looking on me as their *natural enemy*, as Dr. Forbes seems to think all cultivators should.

8. I beg here most respectfully to record my opinion as entirely adverse to Dr. Forbes with reference to the instrumentality and value, or rather the reverse, of the aid which the Inspectors might be of in advising and assisting the Ryots in the obtaining and sowing of a superior quality of cotton.

9. Dr. Forbes seems to me to "assume" the point, that the Ryots would view any interference on our part for their benefit with distaste and suspicion. I would here beg to point out that, as a rule, in the course of our official inspections we never come in contact with the Ryot. The cotton is brought to press by the village Bunya, the Native cotton dealer, the agent of the richer merchants, &c. &c., but seldom, if ever, by the original producer, consequently our authority is never felt by, or put in force directly against, the Ryot; we never come into collision with him personally or directly, and he can, therefore, have no reason to dislike or distrust us.

10. As to the Ryot looking on "everything connected with the Cotton Frauds Act as coercive," I think most respectfully that this is again assuming the point at issue. The Act from its very wording, name and tenor, is for the suppression of fraud—wilful and determined roguery in fact. Ryots and cotton-dealers as a class, or even the large majority of them, can scarcely be accused of being rogues. I have met many fair dealers amongst them, and wilful fraud is now happily not so prevalent.

11. The Act itself, therefore, I think I may "assume," runs counter only to the interests to those who desire to commit a "fraud," whilst as regards those who put the Act in force, viz. the Inspectors, I have already shown that they scarcely ever come in contact with the cultivator, and when they do, in my case at any rate, not unpleasantly. I must, therefore, arrive at the conclusion that Dr. Forbes' opinion is on this point more theoretical than practical, at any rate in Goozerat, and that in following his advice, therefore, Government would lose the services of an intelligent body of gentlemen, whose local know-

ledge must be far superior to any information that can be gleaned from the perusal of reports or correspondence; whilst in carrying out your instructions with reference to visiting various portions of the Collectorates during the cold season they find themselves in the course of their duty at the very points where their services could be best utilized. Further, I cannot help thinking that the Ryot would entertain a much greater dread of the official who comes immediately in contact with him, viz. the "Collector" of the District, than he possibly could of an Inspector of Cotton, especially when it is considered that the "Collector" has full Magisterial powers, and the "Inspector" no punitive powers of any kind. I am disposed, therefore, to arrive at the conclusion, that the Ryot would receive any proposals of the desired nature more as an order and "as compulsory," if coming from his own Collector, who receives his payments to Government and has full Magisterial powers, than he would if emanating from an official who seldom, if ever, comes in contact with his class in his official capacity, and whose recommendations, is unpalatable, he must know can be safely thrown aside, since the said official (the Inspector) has no power to coerce or punish.

12. I would most respectfully suggest, therefore, the advisability of endeavouring to obtain from Government permission to thoroughly utilize these vast and organized means of doing good in this cause, and which lie dormant at present, or nearly so.

13. I beg to enclose for your information copies, kindly furnished by Mr. Oliphant, of correspondence between himself and Mr. A. Rogers, Revenue Commissioner N. D., and from it you will observe that Mr. Oliphant completely negatives the success of the experiments which are spoken of by Dr. Forbes (in his letter No. 53, of 30th March 1865) as having been "satisfactorily ascertained," whilst Mr. A. Rogers fully bears out Mr. Oliphant in his criticism and in the opinion he entertains of the very unfavorable results which have attended all experiments with American cotton "in this Division of the Presidency."

14. For the above reasons we have arrived at the conclusion that it would be safer to try the Egyptian cotton, and for this purpose I requested in my Telegram of July 1st that you would be so good as soon as possible 9½ Bombay maunds, or 389½ lbs., of Egyptian cotton, and one maund of 41 lbs. of Peruvian.

15. A considerable portion has already been arranged for as follows:—

	lbs.
Mr. Strip, a pensioned soldier, holding a farm near Camp, will sow two acres of Egyptian at my request.....	16
Native Cotton-dealer, to distribute in the neighbouring villages as presents amongst his friends and relatives	205
Total already arranged for.....	221

whilst the Guicowar's Ryots, to whom I have already referred, expressed their willingness to take, if permitted, about five maunds.

16. Mr. Oliphant, I am happy to say, has expressed his determination to have some ground cropped with seed under his personal supervision, and I also purpose making arrangements for sowing an experimental lot of both Egyptian and Peruvian.

17. Next year, therefore, I trust may be looked forward to as one of great hope by those interested in the question of the Cotton supply, and the experiments in this Division will be so varied that they must, I should imagine, be conclusive, and if successful, which I entertain no doubt of, the Ryot will receive numerous ocular proofs of the value of the foreign seed.

18. Trusting I may be excused for the lengthiness of this letter.

Memorandum by J. E. Oliphant, Esq., Collector of Ahmedabad, dated 4th July 1865:

Forwarded. The Collector finds nothing to object to in this report. There is no doubt that the Egyptian seed is the suited to this part of the country, and that the American seed has utterly failed hitherto. The Collector does not think that the naturalized Dharwar American will turn out any better, that is to say, there is no reasonable hope (from the result of previous experiments) that it would ever prove a more remunerative crop than the indigenous plant of this part of the country. The Egyptian seed is very rich in oil of a superior quality, which can

be used for many purposes, but is peculiarly adapted to the preparation of raw wool. A good deal of wool comes *via* Ahmedabad from Maarwar and Central India: it might be prepared and pressed here with advantage. The Collector entirely differs with Dr. Forbes as to the light in which the Cotton Inspector is regarded in these parts by the Ryots. That Officer does not necessarily come in contact with them at all, and its only by the most unwarrantable interference that they could be led to regard him at their enemy.

Letter from J. E. Oliphant, Esq., Collector of Ahmedabad, to A. Rogers, Esq., Revenue Commissioner N. D., No. 252, dated 7th June 1865.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt yesterday of your No. 1629 of 1865, dated 31st ultimo, forwarding Extract from the Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department No. 2163, dated 20th May 1865, and to offer the following remarks thereupon.

2. In the 5th paragraph of his letter to Mr. H. Bulkley No. 53, dated 30th March 1865, Doctor Forbes states to effect that *it has been satisfactorily ascertained that American cotton can be successfully cultivated in Guzerat.* This statement coming from the Cotton Commissioner surprises me, as he should be aware that the results of the numerous experiments made in this Division of the Presidency clearly indicate that American cotton does not thrive in Guzerat, and cannot be profitably grown. I, therefore, think it a waste of time to make any more experiments with American seed, and I am sure that no cultivator will consent to try it, even were there sufficient time to procure the seed from Dharwar, which, I apprehend, there is not now.

3. There *is* a foreign seed, however, which has been lately successfully experimented on within these Districts, viz., the Egyptian, and I am assured by those who have tried it and are competent to give an opinion that the soil of this locality is well adapted to the Egyptian plant, which grows luxuriantly, and gives a large crop of pods, yielding a cotton superior in every respect to that of the indigenous plant. I would suggest that should any Egyptian seed be procurable in Bombay expriments should be made in Guzerat with it, instead of with the Dharwar (American) seed.

Memorandum by A. Rogers, Esq., Revenue Commissioner, N. D., No. 1832, dated 13th June 1865.

Reply of the Revenue Commissioner N. D. No. 252, dated the 7th June 1865, from the Collector of Ahmedabad regarding experiments in Dharwar American Cotton.

The Revenue Commissioner concurs with the Collector as to the *unsucessful* result of the experiments with the American seed that has been tried in Guzerat, but thinks it worth a trial to ascertain whether seed procured from Dharwar, which differs from that formerly tried in being the produce of plants grown in India, and thus being acclimatised, would answer. Dr. Forbes would probably be able to give any information procurable about Egyptian seed.

Memorandum by J. E. Oliphant, Esq., Collector of Ahmedabad, dated 4th July 1865.

True copies forwarded for information of the Cotton Inspector, Ahmedabad.

The Collector has sent for some Dharwar (American) seed, and should it arrive in time will have an experiment made under his own eye, but does not expect any satisfactory result.

RESOLUTION.—A copy of Mr. Bulkley's report should be sent to the Chamber of Commerce, and placed in the Editor's room.

2. Government still adhere to their opinion (Resolution No. 2163, dated 20th May 1865) "that it would be most inexpedient for the Cotton Inspectors to interfere in any way with the field operations of the Ryots."

3. There can, however, be no objection to their distributing an improved description of seed to persons who may be willing to purchase it, and to their assisting the Collectors by suggestions for the improvement of the cotton of the several Districts.

Ordered that copies of the above be forwarded to—
The COMMISSIONER in SIND,
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER N. D.,
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER S. D.,
The COMMISSIONER of CUSTOMS, SALT, and OPIUM,
The INSPECTOR-in-CHIEF COTTON DEPARTMENT.

Under Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX M.

DUTIES ON EXPORTS.

No. 85.

To the OFFICIATING CHIEF SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee I have the honor to hand you herewith a Memorial from the Chamber of Commerce to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, praying for the repeal of an Act, imposing export duties on certain articles of Indian produce, which was passed into a law by His Excellency's Council for making laws, last month;—and I am further directed respectfully to request the favor of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay in Council causing the Memorial to be transmitted with all convenient despatch.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 1st May 1865.

No. 84 OF 1865.

To His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Sir JOHN LAIRD MAIR LAWRENCE, Bart G. C. B. K. S. I., Viceroy and Governor General of India.

The Memorial of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your Memorialists have learned with regret that a bill has recently been passed into law, by the Council of your Excellency for making Laws, to levy export duties on Wool, Jute, Tea, Coffee, and other articles the produce of this country.

That in none of the articles on which these duties are to be levied, does India possess any advantage over other countries producing the same articles: but on the contrary in regard to some, she labours under serious disadvantages.

That Tea and Coffee especially are new articles of agricultural production in, and export from, India.

That these industries are yet in their infancy, and have to contend with many difficulties, being opened for the most part in remote, and uncleared districts, far from markets, and the produce forwarded to places for export under circumstances of difficulty and at great expense.

That with all these disadvantages they have the still greater one of contending in the markets of the world with countries which have for long years had a monopoly of supply,—and that any fresh burdens on the producers must consequently tend to check the culture of products, which if left to the free scope and energy of the promoters bid fair to become in a short time leading articles of produce amongst Indian exports.

That only a serious financial necessity or deficit, can justify the levying of export duties which inevitably fall on the producers and tend to check production.

That in the opinion of your Memorialists no such necessity has been shown, while from statements made in your Excellency's Council for making laws, when the bill was under discussion, it was shown that there was every probability of any possible deficit in the income of the country, being made up by the revenue expected from opium which on high authority was stated to be under valued in the estimate for the coming year.

Your Memorialists, therefore, respectfully pray that your Excellency may take the subject of this Memorial into consideration with a view to the repeal of the Act, at such early and convenient period as to your Excellency may seem fit and your Memorialists will ever pray.

For the Bombay Chamber of Commerce,

(Signed) A. C. GUMPERT,
Chairman.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 27th April 1865.

No. 3982 of 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to your letter dated the 1st May last, forwarding the Chamber's Memorial against the levy of export duty on Wool, Jute, Tea, &c., I am directed to forward, for your information, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Government of India, dated 26th May 1865, No. 469.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,
Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21st September 1865.

No. 469.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

To the OFFICIATING CHIEF SECRETARY to the Government of Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1961, dated the 9th May, enclosing a Memorial from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, appealing against the levy of export duties on Wool, Jute, Tea, &c.,—I have the honor to be,&c.,

(Signed) J. STRACHEY,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

(True copy.)

H. E. JACOMB,
Under Secretary to Government.

Simla, the 26th May 1865.

APPENDIX N.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT PONDICHERRY.

No. 13.

Monsieur le PRESIDENT de la CHAMBRE de COMMERCE de Bombay.

MONSIEUR LE PRESIDENT,—Par un arreté du 1er octobre dernier reproduit dans le numéro du *Moniteur* local du 14 que j' ai l'honneur de vous faire parvenir sousbande séparee, Monsieur le Gouverneur des Etablissements français de l'Inde a institué, dans notre ville, une Chambre de Commerce destineé à fonctionner sur les memes bases & avec les memes attributions que celles de la Métropole & des grandes Colonies.

La Chambre, aujourd'hue constituée, a pense' que l'importance des relations commerciales existant entre votre place & la notre pauvait faire apprendre avee intéret par la chambre que vous présides; que notre commerce a désormais, un organe accrédité, chargé de suivre tout ce qui touche à ses intérêts & est de nature à en provoquer le développement. Elle sait en outre, qu'elle pourrait, á l'occasion, compter sur l' appui, les lumiéres & l'influence si bien justifieé de la Chambre de votre ville, pour l'aider á rempler la Mission en vue de la quelle elle vient d'etre instituee.

La chambre s'attachera á provoquer, autant qu'il sera en elle, l'extension des rapports que existent déjá entre nos deux places & dans cette voie, vos collégues & vous la trouverez taujous, Monsieur le Président, prete á apporter á la chambre de votre

ville, si les circnstances venaient á le' rendre' nécessaire, le concaurs le plus actif & le plus de'vaué.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Président l'expression de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

Le Président de la chambre de commerce de Pondichéry,

A. G. MONTBRUN,

Composition de la chambre de commerce de Pondichèry.

M. M. A. Gallois-Montbrun, de la maison Gravier & Paulain fréres, Président.

Bayol, de la maison Mottet Pernon &c., Sécrétaire.

J. Spielmann, de la maison Amalrie &co.

Cestapére, de la maisolon Cesta &co.

Réble, agent des Messageries impériales.

G Décolons, de la maison Décons fréres.

Calvé Soupravachettiar.

Cau Parassouramachettiar.

Eet Poullé Appavoumodeliar.

Pondichéry, le 6 novembre 1864.

No. 165 OF 1864.

To the PRESIDENT of the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Pondicherry.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant addressed to the President of our Chamber announcing the establishment of a Chamber of Commerce at Pondicherry and inviting the co-operation of the Bombay Chamber in all matters pertaining to commerce in which both Institutions have a common interest.

In reply I am directed by the Chairman and Committee of management of this Chamber to inform you of the high satisfaction with which they have heard the announcement conveyed in your letter under acknowledgment, and to assure you that it will afford the members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, very great pleasure to co-operate with yours in all schemes

having for their object the extension of the relations now existing between the two places and to aid in the promotion of whatever may affect beneficially the commercial interests, which both institutions are specially charged to protect.

I have further the pleasure to inform you that I have forwarded to your address by post in a separate cover, a copy of the last published Report of our Chamber, which will afford you some means of judging of the subjects and business which occupy our attention as occasions and questions arise.

Our Report for the year ending September 30, 1864, is now in the press, and I shall do myself the pleasure of sending you a copy as soon as it is ready for publication,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 30th November, 1864.

No. 25.

Monsieur le SECRETAIRE de la CHAMBRE de COMMERCE, Bombay.

MONSIEUR,—J' ai l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre lettre du 30 novembre dernier & de l'exemplaire du rapport de votre chambre, pour l'amée finissant au 30 septembre 1863, que vous avez bien voulu m'acheminer par la poste.

La chambre de commerce de Pondichéry a pris avec le plus vif intérét, connaissance de ce document trés important & désire que je vousprie d'adresser a votre chambre Ses meilleurs remercíments pour l'envoi qu'elle a bien voulu lui en faire, en même temps que pour le précieux concours qu'elle veut bien leu promettre.

La chambre recevra avec beacoup de plaisir l'exemplaire du rapport pour l'année finissant le 30 septembre 1864, que vous me faites l'honneur de m'annoncer.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus empressés.

Le Président de la Chambre de Commerce,
A. G. MONTBRUN.

Pondichéry le 17 *janvier* 1865.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EXPORT DUTY ON DYED PIECE GOODS.

No. 2923 of 1864.

From George Inverarity, Esq.,
Commissioner of Customs.

To the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,—I have the honor to forward for the opinion of the Chamber the accompanying copy of a Memorandum which has been prepared in this office.

2. The several descriptions of cloth generally selected for being dyed are largely manufactured in Bombay, and are procurable at more favourable rates than cloths of the same description imported from Europe.

3. The practice at present is to levy export duty on the Dye only which may amount to 25 per cent. of the value of the cloth in its original state.

4. As it is often impossible to distinguish English from country goods after they have been dyed, it is proposed in all doubtful cases to levy full duty on the value of the article, *i. e.* dye and cloth included.

5. Before issuing the order, however, I shall be glad to know if the Chamber have any objections to urge against it.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) G. Inverarity,
Commissioner of Customs.

Bombay, Office of Commissioner of Customs, 16th November 1864.

MEMORANDUM

The Deputy Commissioner of Customs is aware that it is the practice of this Department on the exportation of English Piece Goods, country dyed, to charge duty only on the enhanced value of the Goods acquired by the dye, the value of the cloth itself not being assessed with export duty. But as Shirtings and T Cloths are now manufactured in the country it is impossible in respect to several descriptions of these classes of goods, to distinguish the nature of the cloth, whether English, or country-made, after it has been dyed. In several instances after making a careful scrutiny of the cloth the respectability of the Exporters has also been taken into account, in admitting the descriptions given of the cloth. But as this is a very invidious duty to perform I beg to recommend that a General order be issued to charge duty upon the full value of the following description of piece goods when exported in a dyed state without distinction as to their being English or country cloth.

No.	1	32	Inches T. cloth	24	yards	5½	lbs.
„	2	32	ditto.....	24	do.	6	„
„	3	30	ditto.....	24	do.	6	„
„	4	35	Inches L. cloth.....	36	do.	8	„
„	5	40	ditto.....	36	do.	9	„
„	6	44	ditto.....	36	do.	10	„
„	7	40	ditto.....	36	do.	9½	„
„	8	40	ditto Domestic ...	72	do.	24	„
„	9	29	ditto T Colth.....	24	do.	6	„
„	10	26	ditto.....	24	do.	4	„
„	11	28	ditto.....	24	do.	5	„

A few specimens of the above cloths which I have been able to procure I herewith submit for inspection.

(Signed) RAMCHUNDER BALCHRISHNA,
Assistant Commissioner of Customs.

Export Inspecting Department, 14th October 1864.

Truy Copy.

(Signed) G. INVERARITY,
Commissioner of Customs.

No. 161 of 1864.

To G. Inverarity, Esq.,

Commissioner of Customs, Salt, and Opium, Bombay.

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 2923, dated 16th instant, together with copy of a memorandum from an Assistant Commissioner of Customs in the Export Inspecting Department, proposing to issue an order for levying full export duty on dyed cloth of English and Bombay manufacture indiscriminately in consequence of the difficulty of distinguishing between them—and asking for the opinion of the Chamber on the proposed order.

2. In reply I am instructed by the Committee of the Chamber to state, that the order which you propose issuing in the case in question, is in the opinion of the Committee highly objectionable: it would be a great injustice to the importers of English manufactured cloths who have to pay a heavy duty on their importation to subject the cloths again to a fresh duty on their re-exportation, merely because of their undergoing a change when they pass into the hands of purchasers.

3. Such a proceeding would in some measure be a recurrence to the principles of the short-sighted policy of the Government of India in 1859, when it suddenly and without warning doubled the import duty on English manufactured cloth: a policy which in its effects was doubly mischievous, by calling into existence manufactures in India, that have been reared under the fostering influence of protective duties, and checking the most valuable and important part of the Indian Import trade to such an extent that it has barely yet recovered.

4. The order, moreover, if issued would be in direct opposition to the views which now fortunately prevail in the Chief Council of India, in reference to the true principles of commerce, which Sir Charles Trevelyan happily announced in his budget speech of this year when he said, "if we desire to relieve the trade of India, and to give free scope to its further extension we should give all possible encouragement to her imports."

5. In view of what has been said, the statement made in the second para: of your letter that "the descriptions of cloth generally selected for being dyed are largely manufactured in Bombay, and are procurable at more favourable rates than cloths of the same description imported from Europe" ought to be considered a conclusive argument against the proposition.

6. The Committee cannot but consider the reason put forward by the Customs authorities, for the alteration they propose in their present system in reference to the class of exports in question as most inadequate.

7. No doubt cases will occur in which their may be difficulty in protecting the revenue without doing injustice to individuals, but in regard to such doubtful cases the respectability of the Exporter together with a certificate from the Importer might be found sufficient to meet all the requirements of the Customs authorities.

8. The Committee would further suggest in the protection of the interest of the public revenue, that the dyer of English-made cloth should be furnished with some means of proving the identity of the cloth after dying, as for instance by having affixed by a Custom House Officer to each piece of grey cloth, a small leaden medal with an impression on it which would not interfere with the dying process.

9. In conclusion I am to state that while the Committee do not profess to be able to point out the best way in which the difficulty, which your department finds in this matter, can be obviated, they yet believe that, with some trouble no doubt, it may be got over, but in any case they must protest against a solution after the manner of the resolution proposed in your letter under acknowledgment.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 28th November 1864.

EXTRACT *paragraphs* 1 *at* 4 *of letter from the Commissioner to the Deputy Commissioner of Customs, Public Department, No.* 3085, *dated the* 2*nd December* 1864.

1. In acknowledging the receipt of the Acting Deputy Commissioner's memorandum of the 5th ultimo, with enclosure recommending full export duty to be levied upon dyed Shirtings and T. Cloths in consequence of the difficulty of distinguishing between the European and country manufacture, I have the honor to forward for your information copy of the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce upon the subject.

2. There is much to be said on both sides, but there is no doubt that it would be highly oppressive to tax English Piece Goods which had already paid duty upon Importation with a further duty upon exportation, while it would be practically impossible to impose the check suggested in the 8th paragraph of the Chamber's letter which would require the opening at the Custom House of every bale of Piece Goods landed, for the purpose of attaching the leaden medal, a proceeding and delay which would be greatly objected to by importers generally, not to speak of the labour it would involve upon the Custom House Establishments.

3. There is one point, however, which seems to me to recommend the maintenance of the existing practice, although it has not been noticed either by the Assistant Commissioner or the Chamber. If the Piece Goods were not exported in a dyed state, many of them would doubtless be still exported in their original form, when they might claim drawback of Customs duty by having been dyed they become removed from the drawback list, and there is no doubt the saving of revenue thus obtained must more than cover the loss, if any, caused by dyed country goods being passed free of duty upon the cloth, under fraudulent description. Moreover dyed English cloths upon re-export are *theoretically* entitled to drawback of duty upon the *original* article, although in practice they do not obtain it, from the impossibility of identifying them in their altered state as required by law.

4. I am of opinion, therefore, that it would not be expedient to institute the course recommended by the Acting Deputy Commissioner, and that that hitherto adopted should be continued, there being no objections to complete proof or certificates being required in doubtful cases from exporters of bad character who have before defrauded the Customs, and to duty upon the full article being required from such on failure to produce satisfactory proof.

No. 3086 of 1864.

True extract forwarded for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, with reference to their Secretary's letter No. 161 of the 28th ultimo.

(Signed) G. INVERARITY,
Commissioner of Customs.

Bombay, Office of Commissioner of Customs, 2nd December 1864.

DUTIES ON BRITISH GOODS IN PERSIA.

No. 4718 of 1864.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, the accompaning copy of a letter * from the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, and of its enclosures relating to the place at which the five per cent. duty on British Goods is to be levied.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

* No. 50, dated 16th October 1864.

(Signed) E. RAVENSCROFT,
Officiating Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 29th November 1864.

No. 50 of 1864.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From Lieutenant Colonel LEWIS PELLY,
Political Resident, Persian Gulf.

To the Honorable H. L. ANDERSON,
Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit for the information of Government copies of the correspondence as per margin, relating to the question of the plan of levying the 5 per cent. duty on British Goods.

My letter of 25th March last	No. 4
Minister's of 25th May	No. 5
Dr. Colvill's of 11th June	No. 15
Minister's of 27th July	No. 8
Ditto. 1st September	No. 9

2. The essence of the matter for future practical purposes is contained in the enclosure of Her Majesty's Minister's final letter of 1st uultimo, where it is laid down that orders have been given to the authorities in Fars that, if British Merchants are disposed to pay duties on their exports and imports at any place, whatever, and if the provincial authorities are also willing then certainly nothing shall be said which may occasion trouble to either side otherwise the duty will forthwith be levied at Bushire.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) LEWIS PELLY, Lieutenant Colonel,
Political Resident, Persian Gulf.

Residency, Persian Gulf, Bushire, 16th October 1864.

No. 4 of 1864.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

From Lieutenant Colonel LEWIS PELLY,
Acting Political Resident Persian Gulf.

To HIS EXCELLENCY CHARLES ALISON, C.B.,
H. B. M.'s Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary at the Court of Persia, Tehran.

SIR,—Five per cent. duty is leviable under Treaty, on all British goods exported from Persia. This duty to be paid, I understand the Treaty at the Port of Export.

2. The Governer of Bushire complained to me that British subjects pay all or a portion of this duty at Shiraz or elsewhere in the interior, in lieu of at Bushire, the Port of Export.

3. It appeared to me that the Governor's complaint was just; and I therefore directed British Merchants receiving goods from the interior to pay the duty at Bushire furnishing at the same time receipts for any transit dues they might have paid enroute, the amount of which would be deducted from the 5 per cent duty leviable at Bushire.

4. The Merchants now complain that their goods are not allowed to pass to the coast unless they pay duty in the interior, for example, at Shiraz, and our Agent at Shiraz advises me to the same effect.

5. I have the honor to solicit instructions from your Excellency as to whether the 5 per cent. Export duty should be paid at Bushire, or at any other point in the interior; and to request the favor of the Government of the Shah notifying their decision to the local Persian authorities,—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) L. PELLY, Lieut. Colonel,
Acting Political Resident Persian Gulf.

Residency, Persian Gulf, Bushire, 25th March 1864.

No. 5.

To Lieut. Colonel PELLY, &c. &c. &c., Bushire.

SIR,—With reference to your letter No. 4, dated 25th March, I have to inform you that the duty of 5 per cent. alluded to is to be paid at the Port of Bushire.

I enclose copy of a Memorandum on this subject from the Acting Chief Meerza Mahomed Hassan Khan,—I am, Sir, with truth and regard your obedient and faithful servant,

(Signed) C. ALLISON.

Tehran, May 21st, 1864.

MEMORANDUM by Mahomed Hassan Khan.

Regarding the question of 5 per cent. export duty and whether British subjects were to pay it at Bushire or Shiraz, I waited upon His Excellency Meerza Saeed Khan who enquired of Mirza Nasrulla (the chief Custom House farmer) what was the proper practice. Meerza Nasrulla replied that although the Customs of Bushire and Shiraz were not farmed by him yet the rule

was, that upon whatever goods were imported at Bushire, 5 per cent duty must be levied there, and whatever should be conveyed from Shiraz for exportation 5 per cent. was to be levied at that place.

I saw the Revamed Dowlah, the Vezier of Fars, yesterday, and talked to him on this question. He remarked that as the Custom House of Bushire had till now been independent of that, of Shiraz, these discussions had arisen, but that now both these places were under his own orders, and that, therefore, no further disputes would occur with respect to this question.

No. 15 of 1864.

From W. H. Colvill, Esq.,
Civil Surgeon in charge of Bushire, Residency.

To His Excellency Charles Alison, C.B.,
H. B. M's. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary at the Court of Persia, Tehran.

Sir,—In acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter as per margin, I beg respectfully to remark that while its first paragraph explicitly directs that the duty of 5 per cent alluded to in Colonel Pelly's letter, No. [illegible] 25th March last, is to be paid at the Port of Bushire. The enclosure thereto leaves the question still in doubt, for the Kowaud-Douleh's remarks only dispose of the question so far as the Revenues of Bushire and Fars are farmed by the same individual. And in event of the Bushire Custom House becoming as last year independent of Fars, the discussions under notice will again come forward.

No. 5 of 21st ultimo.

2. The Chief Custom House Farmer too is of opinion, that purchases made in Shiraz for exportation should be liable to the 5 per cent duty at Shiraz.

3. My sole object in once more troubling your Excellency is to be able to give British Merchants a decided reply to their question, whether on their purchases at Shiraz they are to pay

the 5 per cent duty at that City or at the port of exportation, Bushire? The Governor of Bushire according to the terms of Article I of the Commercial Treaty claims the 5 per cent duty on the Goods at the time of their going out of the country, whereas the Custom House at Shiraz insists on the 5 per cent duty being paid at Shiraz and will not permit the Goods to pass until it is paid down. Colonel Pelly was of opinion that the Governor of Bushire had a right to claim the 5 per cent duty at the place of exportation, and from His Excellency Colonel Sheil's letter marginally indicated, it would appear he was of the same opinion, as he considered all trade carried on by British Merchants in Persian Territory liable to the same duty, to which Persian subjects engaging in such trade are liable.

Circular Para. 1 of 24th January 1863.

I would respectfully venture to give an instance how this rule might be set at nought by the British Merchant having to pay 5 per cent duty on his purchases at Shiraz instead of at Bushire. 1,000 bales of cotton may be purchased at Shiraz by a British Merchant for exportation to India. The 5 per cent duty being claimed at Shiraz he would have to pay it. But on the arrival of his cotton a fall in price may compel him to change his mind, and instead of exporting his cotton to India, he should sell it in Bushire. How would he be reimbursed in the amount of 5 per cent duty he had paid in Shiraz,—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) W. H. COLVILL, Civil Surgeon,
In charge of the Residency.

Residency, Persian Gulf, Bushire, 11th June 1864.

No. 8.

To Doctor COLVILL, &c. &c., Bushire.

SIR,—I have received your despatches Nos. 13, 14, and 15 The subject of 5 per cent. duty is now before the King, and as I shall likely not receive an answer to my official communication for several days, I despatch the Courier. In the meantime I

hold to my interpretation of the Treaty as communicated to you in my despatch No. 5 of the 21st ultimo. The enclosure in that despatch merely served to show that as Bushire and Shiraz were under the same Governor no further disputes would likely occur on that score. The opinion expressed by Meerza Nussalla carries no authority whatever with it,—I am, Sir, with truth and regard your obedient and faithful servant,

(Signed) C. ALISON.

Camp near Tehran, 27th July 1864.

No. 9.

To Doctor COLVILL, &c. &c., Bushire.

SIR,—With reference to my despatch No. 8 of July 27th, I enclose Translation of a letter from the Persian Minister for Foreign Affairs which sets the question of the place of levying the 5 per cent. duty at rest,—I am Sir, with truth and regard, your obedient and faithful servant,

(Signed) C. ALISON.

Camp near Tehran, 1st September 1864.

TRANSLATION.

MEERZA SAEED KHAN to MR. ALISON.

In answer to Your Excellency's letter in which you [illegible] that the duties on goods of English Merchants shall be levied at the time of export and import at Bushire, and in which you refer in evidence to the tenor of the Treaty of Commerce concluded between the two Governments, I have the honor to state that although the clear meaning of the Treaty is not that the duty be levied exclusively at the line of frontier, but rather amounts simply to this, that duty shall not be claimed more than once. Yet for facilitating business and in order not to prolong discussion, orders have been given to the authorities in Fars that, if

British Merchants are disposed to pay duties on their exports and imports at any place whatever, and if the Provincial authorities are also willing, then certainly nothing shall be said which may occasion trouble to either side.

Otherwise the duty will forthwith be levied at Bushire.

Translated by
(Signed) A. GLEN.

(True Copies.)
(Signed) JAMES CHARLES EDWARDS,
Uncovenanted Assistant Political Resident.

(True Copies.)
(Signed) C. GONNE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

(True copies.)
(Signed) E. RAVENSCROFT,
Offig. Chief Secretary to Government.

1st August 1864.

STATISTICS OF THE TRADE OF ADEN.

No. 3271 OF 1864.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From the HON'BLE H. L. ANDERSON,
Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward for submission to the Chamber of Commerce the accompanying Extract (paras 17 at 29) from the annual administration report of Aden for the past year,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. L. ANDERSON,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 28th October 1864.

EXTRACT PARAS: 17 *at* 29 *from a letter from the Political Resident, Aden, No.* 48 *dated the* 15*th June* 1864.

Revenue Customs.

17. Below is a statement of the External Trade of Aden contrasted with that of the previous year. The trade returns follows the official year made up to 30th of April.

Classification of Goods.	IMPORTS.			EXPORTS.		
	Value.	Increase.	Decrease.	Value.	Increase.	Decrease.
Apparel	20,352	15,727	.....	5,390	5,290	.....
Coal	28,63,126	15,14,226	.....	.....	.....	.....
Coffee	1,35,770	.....	1,45,936	8,44,998	45,686	.....
Cotton	1,65,786	.....	28,569	1,35,526	.....	67,564
Cotton Piece Goods	18,02,262	9,44,070	.....	14,77,265	7,61,985	.....
Drugs	8,432	8,254	.....	13,653	.....	3,194
Dyes	11,750	5,074	.....	70,896	.....	36,515
Feathers	1,04,536	1,04,536	.....	1,51,123	1,51,123	.....
Fishmaws	.....	.....	.....	80	80	.....
Fruits	42,274	.....	4,233	19,523	11,415	.....
Grain	1,84,811	.....	48,130	44,224	.....	20,109
Gum and Resins	31,078	.....	36,214	75,890	.....	14,864
Hides and Skins	29,783	10,894	.....	36,894	.....	736
Ivory	76,367	.....	50,914	2,20,434	21,009	.....
Live Stock	1,69,044	.....	57,292	23,888	6,882	.....
Malt Liquor	17,722	.....	7,493	1,396	1,396	.....
Mats, &c.	4,076	.....	135	253	.....	306
Metals	66,011	.....	31,060	37,764	21,264	.....

Manufactured Metals	1,371	1,871	.....	40	40	.....
Mother-of-Pearl shells	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Oils	12,231	.....	4,348	1,945	1,795	.....
Oilman's store	785	.....	2,705	.....	.....	.....
Paints and Colours	2,417	2,417	.....	35	35	.....
Pearls	1,84,725	1,84,725	.....	1,94,275	1,94,275	.....
Provisions	1,05,158	34,308	.....	39,190	5,937	.....
Seeds	18,422	2,310	.....	5,015	.....	2,255
Silk	21,023	.....	42,458	800	.....	2,260
Silk Piece Goods	50,168	50,168	.....	5,150	5,150	.....
Spices	63,509	11,290	.....	28,822	501	.....
Spirits	29,379	6,512	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sugar	76,167	6,748	.....	37,135	17,070	.....
Tea	10,988	1,796	.....	50	50	.....
Tobacco	2,34,497	45,068	.....	49,522	.....	14,370
Tortoise shells	500	500	.....	1,640	1,640	.....
Wax	80	.....	210	11,305	.....	5,450
Wines	17,253	10,142	.....	....	.....	180
Woods	1,390	.....	10,597	410	.....	707
Sundries	1,78,150	.....	8,753	1,10,793	.....	31,602
Total...	67,42,393	29,60,636	4,79,047	36,45,324	12,52,623	2,00,112
Treasure...	13,99,726	2,42,367	.....	10,43,766	1,37,477	.....
Grand Total Rupees...	18,42,119	32,03,003	4,79,047	46,89,090	13,90,100	2,00,112

18. From the above there appears to have been an increase in the Import Trade of Rs. 27,23,956 over that of the preceding year.

19. The principal articles on which the increase is recorded are :—

Coals ..... Rs.	15,14,226	Provisions (Ghee).. Rs.	34,308
Piece Goods..... „	9,44,070	Hides and Skins... „	10,894
Spices ..... „	11,290	Ostrich Feathers.. „	1,04,536
Wines ..... „	10,142	Tobacco ..... „	45,068

20. The reasons for the increase are given in extenso in the Trade Returns for the year.

21. In the Exports there has also been a considerable increase of Rupees 11,89,988. The general result is most satisfactory.

22. The following statement shows the division of trade.

Imports from	Value, including Treasure.
Foreign or External Ports ..... Rs.	56,99,575
Indian or Home Ports..... „	22,51,237
Indian or Home Ports not British... „	1,91,307

Exports to	Value, including Treasure.
Foreign or External Ports ..... Rs.	29,22,145
Indian or Home Ports ..... „	17,25,518
Indian or Home Ports not British ... „	41,427

23. The principal places from which the increase comes are :—

	Imports, excluding Treasure.
United Kingdom ..... Rs.	29,15,647
Arabian Gulf and Red Sea ..... „	8,74,062
China ..... „	39,330
France..... „	20,850
Singapore ..... „	11,775
Suez..... „	43,095
Bombay ..... „	19,77,864

	Export, excluding Treasure.
African Coast..... Rs.	4,07,635
Arabian Gulf and Red Sea ..... „	15,37,873
China ..... „	13,060
France..... „	3,03,800
Persian Gulf..... „	53,279
Suez..... „	2,10,294
Calcutta ..... „	11,416

24. The value of goods passed into Arabia by land is greater than last year by Rs. 11,45,573. More than half of this is on Tobacco, the Turkish Government having put a heavy Tax on

this article passing through their ports; the trade has almost entirely been directed to this.

25. In the value of goods arrived from the interior by the daily Kaffilahs there is an increase of Rupees 32,990.

26. The following is a summary of the External and Internal trade of Aden during 1863-64.

Imports by sea.....		Rs.	81,42,119
Imports by land.....		„	16,54,904
		„	97,97,023
Exports by sea	Rs. 46,89,090		
Exports by land.....	„ 31,66,893	„	78,55,983
	Grand Total	Rs.	1,76,53,006

27. This is more by Rupees 50,92,507 than last year, which shows a most prosperous state of trade.

28. The Nationality of the various square-rigged vessels and country craft which have entered the Port is as follows :—

	No. of vessels.	Tonnage.
British Colors.....	185	1,76,312
American.....	18	15,602
French.....	26	36,776
Hamburg	1	1,021
Arab	126	5,601
Bremen	1	763
Total...	357	2,36,075

29. There has been a considerable falling off in the number of native craft owing to the Harbour Dues having been raised, but I look on this as only temporary, and the numbers before long will be greater than ever. The trade coming here so extensively as it has done will soon cause the owners of native craft to care little for the extra dues.

(True Extracts)

(Signed) H. L. ANDERSON,
Chief Secretary.

No. 2170 of 1865.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From C. GONNE, Esq.,
Secretary to Government, Bombay.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed to forward to you for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying extract paras. 12 and 19 from the Administration Report of Aden for the year 1864-65.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) C. GONNE,
For Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 31*st August* 1865.

STATEMENT.

EXTRACT *paras* 18 *and* 19 *from a Report from the Political Resident at Aden, No.* 87 *dated* 1*st July* 1865.

18. Below is a statement of the *External* Trade of Aden contrasted with that of the previous year.

Classfication of Goods.	IMPORTS.			EXPORTS.		
	Value.	Increase.	Decrease.	Value.	Increase.	Decrease.
Apparel	16,430	...	3,922	5,641	251	..
Coal	1,470,582	...	1,392,544	3,150	3,150	..
Coffee	14,528	...	121,242	308,289	..	536,709
Cotton	141,574	...	24,212	26,595	..	108,931
,, Piece goods.. ..	1,220,450	...	581,812	474,397	..	302,868
Drugs	9,017	585	..	14,123	470	..
Dyes	6,990	..	4,760	52,030	..	18,866
Feather	52,243	..	42,293	112,086	..	39,037
Fishmaws	...	..	..	..	..	80
Fruits	49,290	7,016	..	12,953	..	6,570
Grains	423,159	238,348	..	174,729	130,505	..
Gums and resins	46,824	15,746	..	101,869	25,979	..
Hides and skins	25,831	...	3,952	72,217	35,323	..
Ivory..	217,717	141,350	..	310,810	10,376	..
Live Stock	158,572	..	10,472	36,900	13,012	..
Malt liquor	5,619	..	12,103	..	..	1,396
Mats, &c.	4,055	...	21	1,077	824	..
Metals	45,092	..	20,919	13,205	..	24,559
Manufactured metals. ..	200	..	1,671	55	15	...

Classification of Goods.	Imports.			Exports.		
	Value.	Increase.	Decrease.	Value.	Decrease.	Decrease.
Mother o'pearl Shells ..	12	12	..	680	680	...
Oils	23,717	11,486	..	1,168	..	777
Oilmans' Stores	4,392	3,607	..	75	75	...
Paints and Colors	3,078	661	..	410	375	...
Pearls	133,200	..	51,525	268,827	74,552	...
Provisions	63,528	..	41,630	41,386	2,116	...
Seeds..	37,582	19,160	..	7,810	2,795	...
Silks	15,830	..	5,193	..	..	800
„ piece goods	82,185	32,017	..	12,230	7,080	...
Spices	107,318	43,809	..	26,726	..	2,096
Spirits	6,390	..	22,989	312	312	...
Sugar...	49,153	..	27,014	11,238	...	25,897
Tea	2,470	..	8,518	144	94	...
Tobacco	376,976	141,979	..	1,34,393	84,871	...
Tortoiseshells	300	..	200	200	..	1,440
Wax..	100	20	..	14,610	3,305	...
Wines	1,720	..	15,533	100	100	...
Woods	..	..	1,390	..	...	410
Sundries	133,693	..	44,457	55,981	...	54,812
Total merchandize... ...	4,959,892	655,796	2,438,372	2,996,416	476,340	1,125,248
„ Treasure	1,712,592	312,860	..	1,646,999	603,233	...
Grand Total...Rupees	66,72.484	968,656	2,438,372	4,643,415	1,079,573	1.125.248

19. In the imports there appears at first sight a falling off, but the deficiency is in reality in the import of coal, which cannot be called an article of trade and of which this year a very much less quantity has come owing to the unusually large store laid in the year before when freight was so very low. In 1864, coal was imported to the value of Rupees 28,63,126. This year only Rupees 13,92,544 worth have come. The gross imports in 1863-64 were Rupees 97,97,023, deduct from that Rupees 28,63,126, value of the coal, and you have Rupees 69,33,897. This year the gross imports are Rupees 82,70,266, deduct from that Rupees 13,92,544, and there remains Rupees 68,77,722, a decrease of only Rupees 56,175. At the same time the exports show an increase to the extent of Rupees 7,30,417, so that on the whole there has been an increase in the general trade of Rupees 6,74,242. The chief decrease in imports besides in coal, has been in piece goods and coffee. Anticipated famine in the interior, and disorders in Yemen, partly account for this, the merchants felt there would be less demand. Mocca coffee does not seem to be so much sought after as it was, and much less came this year from Berbera. In the exports too, there was a falling off in coffee, piece goods and cotton. As less Berbera coffee was imported, the Berbera merchants took away less in piece goods. The change in the arrangements of the fair also had its effect. There may be said to have been no fair. The rival tribes have been settled down, one at Berbera, and the other at Bulhar a little way distant. This was not clearly understood up-country, and many Kafilahs were kept back for fear of the uncertainty. There is still a brisk trade in tobacco.

(True Extract,)

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,
For Secretary to Government.

RELIEF OF APPREHENDED FAMINE AT ADEN.

No. 1158 of 1865.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From C. GONNE, Esq.,

Secretary to Government, Bombay.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—The Political Resident at Aden has represented to Government that owing to the prevalence of a famine in the provinces of the Arabian Mainland, apprehensions are entertained that great distress will be experienced in Aden itself, unless aid is obtained from external sources.

2. Under these circumstances I am desired to request that you will move the Chamber of Commerce to suggest the names of an European gentleman and one or two of the native merchants of Bombay who are most connected with Aden, to confer in Committee with the Commissioner of Customs, the superintendent of Marine and the Officiating Commissary General, as to what measures can be adopted for relieving the distress at Aden, and to favor Government with the result of their deliberations.

3. The Hon'ble the Governor in Council proposes to place a steamer at the disposal of the Committee for the conveyance to Aden of such articles as they may think likely to be of immediate use. With this object the Committee are empowered to purchase on account of Government either here or at Kurrachee or Muscat or wherever else it is likely that grain, &c., could be best procured, and to send these supplies to the Political Resident who will arrange for their disposal so as to afford relief where most needed, without injuriously checking trade supplies.

4. I am desired to enclose for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, copy of a letter received from Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, in which he generously offers a quantity of Bengal rice for the use of the inhabitants at Aden, which the Committee will be able to forward by the Government steamer,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) C. GONNE,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 15*th July* 1865.

No. 129 of 1865.

To C. Gonne, Esq.,
Secretary to Government, Political Department, Bombay.

Sir,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1158, dated 15th instant. In reply, I have the honour to state that the Committee respectfully suggest to Government, Mr. James Bogie of the firm of Messrs. Wallace and Co., Veerjivundass Mahdowdass, Esq., Justice of the Peace, Hindoo Merchant and Banker; Hajee Esmail Hajee Habib Yoosif, Justice of the Peace and Consul for Turkey, Hajee Moosa Joosub, Esq., Merchant, as gentlemen well qualified to confer in Committee with the gentlemen in the service of Government mentioned in your letter, with a view to consider and report upon the measures to be adopted for relieving the distress at Aden,—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) James Taylor,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 18*th July* 1865.

No. 1756 of 1865.

Political Department.

From C. Gonne, Esq.,
Secretary to Government, Bombay.

To the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Sir,—In continuation of my letter No. 1158, dated the 15th instant, I am directed to forward for the information of the Aden Relief Committee, copies of two telegrams from the Commissioner in Sind, in answer to enquiries made by Government regarding the practicability of obtaining a supply of grain at Kurrachee for transmission to Aden.

2. I am at the same time desired to request that the Committee will favor His Excellency the Governor in Council with an early report on the measures which they propose to adopt for

carrying out the wishes of Government,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) C. GONNE,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21st July 1865.

From Kurrachee,
From COMMISSIONER IN SIND,
To Poona,
To C. GONNE, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Your letter number one hundred twelve received, I can take up a ship here for Aden and can obtain abundance of grain at moderate price; shall I do so and what quantity of grain shall I send?

From Kurachee,
From COMMISSIONER IN SIND,
To Kirkee through Poona,
To SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

A ship would go to Aden in three weeks, a fortnight would be required to collect the grain, the entire cost of a cargo of seven hundred tons, with freight would be about a lac of Rupees; please send instructions quickly as ship will not wait.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) C. GONNE,
Secretary to Government.

SAMLAJEE AND MHYJEE FAIRS.

No. 68 OF 1865.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From Major J. BLACK,
Political Agent Mahee Kanta.
To C. GONNE, Esq.,
Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit for the information of Government a statement of the amount of goods offered for sale,

sold, and remaining unsold at the last Samlajee Fair which was held between the 9th and 25th November last.

2. The value of merchandise and cattle brought on this occasion for sale amounted to rupees 28,18,854, and the sales to 21,86,891, leaving rupees 6,31,193 worth unsold.

3. The following Table shows the value of goods and cattle brought for sale, sold, and remaining unsold for the last ten years from which it will be observed, that, the sales effected at this Fair in November last exceed in value those of any of the preceding 9 years.

Years.	Value of Goods.		
	Brought.	Sold.	Unsold.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1855	10,26,855	8,07,755	2,19,100
1856	9,93,151	9,08,641	84,510
1857 } No fair held. 1858 }			
1859	7,95,700	7,02,700	93,000
1860	8,86,604	7,24,664	1,61,940
1861	18,77,717	17,47,417	1,30,300
1862	19,45,815	8,64,072	10,81,743
1863	27,00,735	20,50,365	6,50,370
1864	28,18,854	21,86,891	6,31,193

4. It will be observed from the enclosed statement that English chintzes and piece goods of the value of rupees 169,700 remained unsold which was owing to the quantity of these goods having been greater than usual and also owing to the cotton market having, during the time of the Fair, been in a very unsettled state; the price expected for these goods could not be obtained and they were sold generally at a loss.

5. From the subjoined Table showing the value of cloth of European and Indian manufacture, offered for sale, sold, and remaining unsold in the years 1863 and 1864, it will be seen that the sales at the last Fair are considerably less than those of 1863.

	Goods for sale.		Sold.		Unsold.	
	In 1863.	In 1864.	In 1863.	In 1864.	In 1863.	In 1864.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
English chintz piece goods	2,34,550	4,21,000	2,34,550	2,51,300	.....	1,69,700
Ahmodabad silk	32,313	37,050	32,313	24,990	.....	12,060
Cotton cloth of Guzerat manufacture.....	1,26,875	88,367	1,26,875	85,311	.....	3,056
Cloth of Purtabghur and Boorampoor.....	2,48,888	4,34,025	2,48,888	3,29,782	.....	1,04,243
Handkerchief Jaypoor manufacture.....	50,770	.....	50,770	.....	.....	.....
	6,93,396	9,80,412	6,93,396	6,91,383	.....	2,89,059

6. The quantity of opium brought for sale was less than that of last year, but was greater than usual, and, although opium of the value of Rupees 2,74,886 remained unsold, the sales exceed those of former years as shown in the subjoined Table :—

Years.	Opium.		
	Offered.	Sold.	Unsold.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1855.....	6,40,000	4,80,000	1,60,000
1856.....	5,00,000	5,00,000	
1857 } no fair held,			
1858 }			
1859.....	5,65,000	4,87,000	68,000
1860.....	4,50,000	3,60,000	90,000
1861.....	9,30,000	9,00,000	30,000
1862.....	10,30,000	2,70,000	7,60,000
1863.....	17,25,535	10,90,265	6,35,270
1864.....	15,48.751	12,73,865	2,74,886

7. The Maharaj of Edur has increased the accommodation at the Fair by building during the past year 83 new shops, but there is still a great demand for them, and before next Fair is held the Maharj intends to build 100 more which will make the the number altogether 483.

8. Government having expressed a desire that no Regular Troops should be employed in maintaining order at the Samlajee Fair, and the Guzerat Irregular Horse latterly employed for this purpose having been disbanded, I made use of on this occasion the horsemen of His Highness the Gaekwar's Contingent only, and being unable to depute my Assistant, I sent my Dufterdar Ajum Heera Lall under whose able superintendence, I am happy to report that the Fair passed off without any disturbance of kind, and without any case of robbery or violence occurring within a circuit of 12 miles of it.

9. For the protection of the merchants and others attending the Fair, the Troops below noted were present.

Gaekwar's Reformed Horse.....	100
Contingent.....	200
Sebundy of Edur.....	250
Total...	550

10. The Maharaj of Edur attended the Fair as usual for a few days, and as he has not as yet carried out the improvement, I suggested to him with reference to clearing the roads leading into and through the ground occupied by the Fair, I have again brought the subject to his notice,—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. BLACK,
Political Agent.

Mahee Kanta Agency, Camp Kuttosun, 2nd February 1865.

STATEMENT.

Statement of articles brought, sold, and remaining unsold at the Samlajee Fair held between the 9th and 25th November 1864.

No.	Nature of Goods.	Goods Brought.		Goods Sold.		Goods carried away Unsold.	
		Maunds.	Value of Goods.	Maunds.	Value of Goods.	Maunds.	Value of Goods.
	From Guzerat.	Mds Seers.	Rs.	Mds. Seers.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
1	Wasanoo (Sundry spices) ...	2.692 36	22,534	2,692 36	22,534	...	...
2	English chintzes & pices goods.	2,951 0	4,21,000	1,521 0	2,51,300	1,430	1,69,700
3	Iron ware	661 22	3,964	661 22	3,964	...	...
4	Bangles of wood	319 12	3,152	319 12	3,152	...	...
5	Cotton cloth coarse	241 0	13,940	220 0	12,440	21	1,500
6	Vessels, copper and Brass ...	995 5	30,260	995 5	30,260	...	...
7	Confectionery	225 0	1,148	225 0	1,148	...	...
8	Shoes	10 0	389	10 0	389	...	...
9	Tin and Pewter, &c., ...	1 25	50	1 25	50	...	...
10	Flour, Rice, Dol', &c., ...	1,168 0	2,552	1,168 0	2,552	...	...
11	Cotton cloth from Kaira ...	224 0	28,556	200 0	27,000	24	1,556
12	Iron Sicca and Roopasaee ...	864 0	3,375	864 0	3,375	...	...
13	Gum	60 0	676	60 0	676	...	...
14	Cotton cloth from Wassoo ...	60 0	4,050	60 0	4,050	...	...
15	Ditto from Pitlad	541 0	30,100	541 0	30,100	...	...
16	Ditto from Veerungam ...	128 0	2,100	128 0	2,100	...	...
17	Ditto from Broach	30 0	750	30 0	750	...	...
18	Ditto from Prantej	46 0	2,025	46 0	2,025	...	...

19	Ditto from Cambay	12	0	4,500	12	0	4,500	...	...
20	Ditto from Kupperwunj ...	36	0	1,550	36	0	1,550	...	...
21	Ditto from Putton	3¼	0	296	3¼	0	296	...	...
22	Copper coins (change) ...	...		13,005	...		13,005	...	...
23	Paper	140	0	5,524	140	0	5,524	...	...
24	Silk cloth from Ahmedabad ...	92	22	37,050	62	22	24,990	30	12,060
25	Snuff	14	0	260	14	0	260	...	...
26	Betelnut leaves	15	0	100	15	0	100	...	...
27	Utter of Roses, &c., ...	0	6	1,000	0	4	700	2 seers.	300
28	Silk made up in various ways...	12	5	440	12	5	440	...	...
29	Sugar	2,000	0	18,000	1,500	0	13,500	500	4,500
30	Goor (coarse Sugar)	150	0	600	150	0	600	...	...
31	Sugar Candy	60	0	720	60	0	720	...	...
32	Cocoanuts. fresh	648	0	3,500	648	0	3,500	...	...
33	Dried Cocoanut and dates ...	300	0	1,500	300	0	1,500	...	...
34	Dates	120	0	600	120	0	600	...	...
35	Almonds	60	0	600	60	0	600	...	...
36	Raisins	10	0	100	10	0	100	...	...
37	Saffron	¾	0	1,000	¾	0	1,000	...	...
38	Red lead	3	0	50	3	0	50	...	...
39	Kunkoo	6	0	120	6	0	120	...	...
40	Ghee	1,800	0	28,800	1,800	0	28,800	...	...
41	Oil	300	0	2,100	300	0	2,100	...	...
42	Brass Ornaments	20	0	900	20	0	900	...	...
43	Tobacco	1,200	0	10,000	1,100	0	9,200	10	800
44	Soap, country	325	0	1,875	325	0	1,875	...	...
45	Pearls real and false ...	¾	0	6,000	½	0	4,000	¼	2,000
46	Bangles, glass	25	0	400	25	0	400	...	...
47	Gram	1,100	0	2,100	1,100	0	2,100	...	...
48	Kuria Khar, &c.	150	0	600	150	0	600	...	...
49	Salt	100	0	150	100	0	150	...	...

No.	Nature of Goods.	Goods Brought.		Goods Sold.		Goods carried away Unsold.	
		Maunds.	Value of Goods.	Maunds.	Value of Goods.	Maunds.	Value of Goods.
		Mds. Seers.	Rs.	Mds. Seers.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
50	Articles made of wood ...	...	400	...	400	..	..
51	Cotton cloth from Edur ...	...	500	..	500	..	..
52	Glass Bottles	...	400	...	400	..	..
53	Horse Furniture	...	200	...	200	..	..
54	Bangles of wax	65 0	800	65 0	800	..	..
		...	7,16,361	...	5,23,945	...	1,92,416
	From Meywar.						
1	Cloth from Purtabghur ...	1,403 0	4,00,250	1,253 0	3,01,050	150	99,200
2	Ditto from Delhi	5 0	5,000	5 0	5,000	..	..
3	Ditto from Doongurpoor ...	15 0	1,100	15 0	1,100	..	..
4	Ditto from Buranpoor ...	45 0	25,675	35 0	20,632	10	5,043
5	Opium	6,124 8	15,48,751	5,357 0	12,73,865	767 8 seers.	2,74,886
6	Honey	200 0	1981	200 0	1981	..	..
7	Bees wax	50 0	800	50 0	800	..	...
8	Bangles of wax (Lac) ...	65 0	836	65 0	836	..	...
9	Brass and copper vessels ...	60 0	2,000	48 0	1,582	12	418
10	Dholee Mooslee (Taproot) ...	50 0	400	50 0	400	..	...
11	Peeplee mool roots	100 0	4,000	100 0	4,000	..	...
12	Cummin seeds	300 0	2,400	300 0	2,400	..	...

13	Turmeric	300	0	2,400	300	0	2,400	.. ...
14	Red chillees, Garlic & Ginger ..	100	0	300	100	0	300	.. ...
15	Cloth Stamped	35	0	2,000	35	0	2,000	.. ...
16	Kumlees and Numdas ..	...		1,600	...		1,600	.. ...
17	Sealing wax	100	0	1,000	100	0	1,000	.. ...
18	Leather and hides	..		2,000	..		2,000	.. ...
19	Bullocks	..		1,00,000	..		40,000	.. 60,000
		..		21,02,493	..		16,62,946	.. 4,39,547
		...		28,18,854	..		21,86,891	.. 6,31,963

(Signed) J. BLACK,
Political Agent.

Mahee Kanta Agency, Camp Kuttosun, 2nd February 1865.

(True Copies)

(Signed) C. GONNE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 452.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

The Political Agent in the Mahee Kanta, No. 68, dated the 2nd February 1865.

Reports for the information of Government the result of the last Samlajee Fair held in November 1864.

RESOLUTION.—The report is satisfactory. The Political Agent's proceedings are approved.

Copy should be placed in the Editors Room, and copy forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce.

(Signed) C. GONNE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 17th February 1865.

TO THE POLITICAL AGENT, MAHEE KANTA.

THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. (With copy of the Political Agent's letter, and of its enclosure.)

No. 797 OF 1865.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed to forward herewith the accompanying copy of a Report on the Mhyjee Fair of 1864, together with a copy of the Resolution of Government on the same, and to request that you will, with the permission of the Chamber of Commerce, favor Government with any remarks which may occur to the Members of the Chamber in regard to any of the subjects discussed in the report.

(Signed) H. BIRDWOOD,
Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 29th March 1865.

No. 796 OF 1865.

EXTRACT *from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department, dated 29th March* 1865.

Read the following :—

Letter from Mr. B. H. Ellis, Commissioner of Police, Northern Division dated 30th June 1864, No. 880.

I have the honor to submit a report on the Mhyjee Fair of 1864 by Lieutenant F. J. Wise, Acting 2nd Assistant Superintendent of Police, Khandeish.

2. The report is to the address of the Collector of Khandeish whose transmiting remarks are given below.

2. "The usual combined Military and Police Force was in attendance, and disposed so judiciously by Lieutenant Wise, that only four cases of petty theft occurred, and in each case the thief was apprehended and punished.

3. "Cholera broke out before the Fair had fully commenced, and was of so fatal a type that it created a panic. Most of the traders who had arrived closed their shops and left while others who had not yet arrived remained away ; purchasers were afraid to enter the Fair ; there was, therefore, very little business done. Every effort was made to check the disease by the strictest attention to cleanliness and sanatory precautions, but wit iout effect. Medicine (Chlorodine and Cholera mixture) was also freely distributed, and though the former effected some cures when taken in the early stages of the disease, it is probable that nature was a more powerful curative agent than the medicine. I do not mean to say that medicine is of no use, but I believe it has a moral rather than a medicinal effect in Cholera, the patient feels that the Sirkar is taking an interest in his welfare, and has given him an expensive medicine, he takes courage and pulls through the disease.

4. "I have much pleasure in bringing to your notice the cheerful zeal with which Lieutenant Wise conducted his duties during this pestilence. He remained at his post doing all that could be done for the sick and the dying, long after the desertion of the Fair by the traders had rendered his presence no longer necessary.

5. "A new system of registering statistics of the Fair was this year introduced ; instead of requiring the owners of carts to

give an account of their contents on entering the Fair, the traders were requested to supply the required information from their books; they readily consented to do this; and it is hoped that greater accuracy will be the result which is found in Appendix A.

6. "The business transacted during the Fair is estimated at Rupees 25,18,850, being Rupees 24,22,826 less than last year, and nearly 5 Laks of property remained unsold at the end of the Fair; 4 Laks of this was piece goods.

7. "Lieutenant Wise brings to notice the great delay in delivering goods to the merchants at the Railway station, owing to the insufficient number of Railway subordinates. I would suggest that the subject should be brought to the notice of the Traffic Manager in order that better arrangements may be made next year.

8. "I regret to have to report that the disbursements of the Mhyjee Fund have exceeded the receipts by the sum of Rupees 1,174-15-10, and I request your sanction to allow this to stand as a debt against the Fund till next year. The deficit is owing to the large expenditure upon the road from the Fair to the Railway Station, the earthwork and metal of which cost Rupees 8,660; the earthwork was thrown up from the gutter on each side of the road, but the whole of the metal had to be carted, the bridges and drains cost Rupees 773-0-5, and Rupees 139-0-6 was paid as compensation to the owners of fields through which the road passed, the road is 2 miles and 400 yards in length and cost Rupees 4,572-0-11, being at the rate of Rs. 2,052-12-2 per mile, including compensation. The metal employed is the best red Kunkur, and will last for a long time. I request your sanction to put a toll on the road next Fair, the traffic is so great that it will probably pay more than double its cost. The details of receipts and expenditure of the Mhyjee Fund will be found in paragraph 30 of Lieutenant Wise's report. I request that the sum required for watering trees till next year and removing the bridge this season, probably Rupees 250 for both purposes, may be expended from the item "Contingences" in the "Local Budget for 1864-65."

9. "In paragraph 33 Lieutenant Wise explains that the item of revenue on account of the sale of opium are the sales from Government stores to the licensed retail-dealers in opium, the revenue derived from poisonous substances is by the sale of the licenses to sell them."

3. It seems to me a matter for surprise that so much business was transacted, considering the severity of the outbreak of Cholera.

4. The spread of the disease is said to have received a great impetus from His Highness the Guicowar's Camp having passed through Khandeish on its way to Baroda from Bombay. During the past season Cholera has visited nearly every Talooka in the province, and it still rages with virulence. On an average more than 50 per cent of the people attacked have died.

5. In paragraph 7th of his report Lieutenant Wise notices that some of the visitors to the fair live in huts on the bed of the river. Instructions will be issued to the Magistrate of Khandeish to prevent huts being in future put up in this situation

6. Lieutenant Wise's proposal for stationing a Medical Subordinate at the Fair, with ordinary medicines, should be adopted, and I beg to recommend it strongly for sanction.

7. During the Fair of 1863 there were 9 cases of petty theft, and this was looked upon as very satisfactory. In 1864 there were only four cases. This speaks much for the efficiency of the arrangements made by Lieutenant Wise, who fully deserves the praise bestowed on him by Mr. Ashburner.

8. The new system of registering traffic at the Fair cannot be said to have had any thing like a proper trial, but it is decidedly an improvement over the former mode of procedure. The Collector of Khandeish will be desired to continue it. The returns will now gradually become more reliable as the traders begin to see that the information required from them is made use of merely for statistical purposes in a general way. There is no objection to Carkoons being employed.

Railway grievances.

9. Paragraphs 21 @ 24 of Lieutenant Wise's report may be transferred to the Railway Department for disposal.

10. Government will be glad to be informed of the completion of the road to connect the Mhyjee Railway Station with the place at which the Fair is held. It has cost Rupees 4,572-0-11 and forms the largest item of expenditure during the year. This outlay will, in a measure, be covered by the tolls to be established next year. The requisite sanction will be obtained from the Public Works Department.

11. The road is one which the Local Fund Committee will take charge of. The Committee can pay off its cost at once by advancing to the Mhyjee Fund a sum sufficient to reimburse

Government to the extent of the excess. I shall suggest this to the Local Committee. The Mhyjee Fund will form henceforth an item of Local Fund Revenue.

12. Referring to the items of disbursement detailed in Lieutenant Wise's paragraph 30, those concerning Batta to Mamlutdar's Carkoons and cart hire for Treasure, &c. appear to me to be fairly debitable to the State instead of to the Fund. It will be observed that upwards of Rupees 3,000 of the receipts were credited to Government. The Collector will be desired to carry over the charges to the account of Government.

Rupees 394-11-0
Rupees 15-11-6

13. The amount of Batta seems excessive, and the Collector will be called upon for explanation. The matter, however, is one with which Government need not be troubled.

14. The Mamlutdar and Foujdar of Lohara are well spoken of by Lieutenant Wise.

Azum Pandoorung Sudasheo.
Azum Mahadajee Anunt.

Letter from Lieutenant F. J. Wise, Acting Assistant Superintendent of Police Khandeish, dated 5th June 1864, No. 22, to the Collector and Magistrate of Khandeish.

I have the honor to submit the Annual Report of the Mhyjee Fair for the year 1864, which commenced on the 23rd of January, and terminated on the 18th of March. I much regret the delay that has occurred in transmitting this report, but the Mahratta papers have only just reached, the reason for this I have explained in para No. 19.

2. The following Troops were employed for the preservation of order in and about the Fair.

150 Men of Her Majesty's 9th Regiment N. I. under command of Lieutenant Walter.
145 Men of the Khandeish Bheel Corps.
24 Men of the Poona Horse.
37 Unarmed Police.
123 Chowkeydar Bheels.

With few exceptions these Troops and Police were disposed of as in former years, which arrangement has proved so good, that it is very difficult for any criminal to effect his escape at any time in the day or night.

3. There were only 4 cases of petty theft during the Fair, and in each case the offender was apprehended and punished.

4. Only 123 Bheel Chowkeydars were employed, being 27 less than last year, as I registered all those who were not present on the day their muster was taken. Those employed petitioned for an increase of pay on account of high price of grain, which was not granted; an advance of one rupee per mensem having been given only the year before on that account. They were paid up and discharged on the 19th of March.

5. The Detachment of the 9th Regiment N. I. arrived on the 23rd of January and left on the 12th of March

6. The Fair filled well at the commencement, and gave promise of being in every respect equal to that of last year, but I regret to say that after the first week, namely, about the beginning of February, Cholera broke out and continued to increase so much during the month, as to cause a panic and a great number of the merchants to return to their homes, and very few purchasers were forthcoming, and by the 1st of March not more than two-thirds of those who had originally assembled and brought goods for sale remained. Many merchants came from long distances to within 20 miles of the Fair, and then turned back. Others who had sent their Agents or servants to prepare their stalls, never came, and their bales of merchandise were taken back without having been opened. I can give no reason whatever for Cholera having thus made its appearance. Every precaution was taken to prevent sickness, and the place was kept as clean as possible, the streets being swept and watered morning and evening. I myself and the Police Foujdar were constantly going round and visiting all parts of the Fair, in order that no rubbish whatever should be allowed to accumulate even for one day. There were several deaths from Cholera in the surrounding villages previous to any fatal case occurring in the Fair. The first person who was attacked within the Fair itself was a private of the 9th Regiment N. I., and this detachment lost altogether seven men, nearly all being taken ill when on duty.

7. It is the custom of buyers who only come for two or three days, to live in tents in the bed of the river, and those people suffered the most from Cholera.

8. Cholera Medicines were supplied to all who asked for them, from the Mamlutdar's Cutcherry, but nearly every case proved fatal.

9. I would venture to suggest that in future an experienced Medical Subordinate should be sent to Mhyjee Fair, to take care of the sick. Setting aside the large number of people who assemble for the purpose of trade, there are generally about 350 Troops and Police employed on duty in the Fair, and this year, with the exception of our Hospital Apprentice of the 9th Regiment N. I., who knew little or nothing of medicines, there was no one whatever to afford medical aid to the sick. An Apothecary arrived from Bombay just at the close of the Fair, after the Cholera had entirely disappeared.

10. The total amount of business transacted during the Fair amounted to Rupees 25,18,850-12-0 being a decrease on that of the former year of Rupees 24,22,826-4-0 the cause for which is, I trust, fully explained in the preceding paragraphs.

11. The value of goods remaining unsold at the end of the Fair amounted to Rupees 4,98, 889-11-0, of which as will be seen by reference to Appendix B., there were 4,01,008 Rupees's worth of piece goods alone.

12. The business done in Cotton amounted only to Rupees 32,782, while in last year the sum total was Rupees 10,47,831. This great decrease is of course in a great measure owing to the Fair having been so badly attended, but I have also been given to understand that most of the Cotton in Khandeish had been bought up before the Fair commenced. The small quantity (366¼ maunds) offered for sale was purchased at a good price.

13. It would be useless for me to state in detail, and remark upon the amount of business transacted in each different article of merchandise as contrasted with that done in former years, which has hitherto been the custom in the Mhyjee Fair report. From the total amount of business done as given in paragraph 10, you will perceive that owing to Cholera having made its appearance, the present year must be taken as an exception and that it cannot in any respect be compared with the preceding year.

14. The supply of Grain of all kinds was equal to the demand but it was sold at enormous prices.

15. With reference to paragraph 4 of Government Resolution on the Report for the year 1863, I have the honor to inform you, that the following new plan was adopted for collecting the statistics of the Fair this year, and which I trust may meet with your approval. As might be expected some little difficulty has been experienced in establishing this new system, as any change

from old custom is generally at first unwelcome to natives of this country of the classes that I had to deal with.

16. At the commencement of the Fair the principal merchants of each Bazaar were assembled, and it was proposed to them that the proprietor of each stall should give from his books a statement of the trade done by him during the Fair, as follows :—

1. The description and value of the different kinds of merchandise brought by him to the Fair.

2. The amount of business transacted, and sum realized.

3. The description, value, and quantity of merchandise remaining unsold at the end of the Fair.

17. This Statement is the same that has always been given heretofore, the only difference being that it is taken at the shops from the merchants themselves, instead of being taken at the road "nakas," and therefore is calculated to give a more correct return of the actual amount of trade done during the Fair than could be obtained from the old "naka" system.

18. Allowing that in many cases, for private reasons of their own, the merchants and shopkeepers will not give a correct statement, still I consider this new plan an improvement on the old one for the following reason. By this new system of obtaining the statistics, the data from which the report of the Fair is framed is procured direct from the owners of merchandise; whereas according to to the old "naka" system, it was taken from whoever might happen to be with the goods at the time that they were driven into the Fair. In many cases, and this refers especially to the road leading from the Railway Station, there would only be the driver of the hired cart present, who when challenged by the "naka" Carkoon, would give any answer regarding the description and value of the goods, rather than be kept waiting until inquiries could be made.

19. All the principal merchants in the fair agreed, without any hesitation, to the new plan proposed, and promised at the close of the Fair to give from their books the statement required. This promise was kept by most, but some few, from fear of Cholera, left the Fair in a hurry, without having made up their books, and I have therefore been obliged to write to their villages before I could obtain the return, and this has caused the delay in transmitting my report.

20. Nearly all the smaller Merchants and Shopkeepers stated that they did not total their books until they returned home, or

that they did not keep accounts and that therefore they could only give a daily account of business transacted. It is therefore necessary to employ Carkoons who used to be on the "naikas" for the purpose of going round every evening and taking down the daily account at the different Shops. Each Carkoon will have a certain Bazaar allotted to him, and I request you will kindly sanction their being employed for this purpose.

21. I beg to bring to your notice the great annoyance and loss caused to Merchants, owing to delay in delivery of their goods at the Mhyjee Station, in consequence of the Railway Authorities not providing a sufficient staff of servants. I received several petitions from Merchants stating that they could not get their goods delivered until five and six days after their arrival at the station, although they attended daily, (having to go a distance of 2 miles,) to receive them. On personally making inquiries at the station, I learnt that in the space of 4 days, in the month of February, no less than 70 goods' waggons laden with merchandise arrived at Mhyjee station, and to deliver over, and take payment for all these goods, besides other duties, the following number of servants was allowed by the Company:—

One Station Master,
One Goods Clerk,
Fourteen Hamals.

These men did their best to clear off the goods as soon as possible, but it is evident that they were not equal to the work required of them, and that therefore great delay must occur.

22. A letter was written to the Traffic Manager on the subject, who stated in reply that owing to the Cholera being so bad, they had great difficulty in getting any of their servants to go to Mhyjee. This was not a very satisfactory reason to give as there was little or no danger of Cholera at the Station which is a long distance from the Fair, and at the same time there was Cholera at several other Stations on the Line.

23. The Station at Mhyjee was opened on the 15th January, and trains continued to stop there until some days after the close of the Fair.

24. Only two cases of robbery of goods, during transit by Railway from Bombay, were reported to me and in both the amount of loss was small, this is a great improvement on the past year.

25. A good metalled and bridged road has now been made from the Station to the Fair, which will prove a great benefit in future years. It was not completed in time for use during the Fair of this year.

26. A well has been sunk on one side of the new road, close to the railway station, which is a great boon to all passengers arriving by train, as before they had to go some distance for water.

27. The bridge over the Girna river, was erected this year under the Superintendence of Mr. McKenzie who deserves great praise for the trouble he bestowed on it, and for the manner in which the work was performed.

28. In appendix A. will be found a list of all articles brought into the Fair, with their value, while appendix B. contains a similar list of all that remained unsold at the end of the Fair.

29. An Agent (Mr. Murray) of the Bombay Bank arrived at Mhyjee Fair, on the 15th of February, but as none of the Oomraotee Sowkars, whom he was desirous of meeting, were present this year, he only remained five days, and did not transact any business whatever.

30. The following are the gross receipts and Disbursements of the Fair, distinguishing the items credited to Government from those which form the Mhyjee Fair Fund.

RECEIPTS.

Credited to Government.

1.	Opium sold by Government	Rs.	141	1	6
2.	Duty paid by vendors of poisonous substances	„	131	7	10
3.	Postage receipts	„	124	11	0
4.	Ditto Stamps	„	130	0	0
5.	Receipt Stamps.....	„	15	0	0
6.	Stamps for Hoondies	„	904	7	0
7.	Fines	„	7	0	0
8.	Fee for Sealer of weights and measures	„	180	2	4
9.	Liquor seller, license	„	1,470	6	11
		Total...Rupees	3,104	4	7

Receipts.

Credited to Mhyjee Fair Fund.

1.	Balance of last year	Rs.	2,315	14	9
2.	Stall tax at 3 annas per batt	„	1,967	6	9
3.	Sale of Stalls of absent owners	„	645	9	0
4.	Repaid by Collector of Khandeish the amount given to Gossalla Gha in 1863	„	1,000	0	0
5.	Sale of Guard Huts	„	8	12	3
6.	On account of placing thorns round the trees.....	„	31	10	0
7.	Fine from Karkoon for neglect of duty.....	„	5	0	0
	Total...Rupees		5,974	4	9

Disbursements.

1.	Watering and looking after trees	Rs.	181	2	11
2.	Putting thorns round ditto	„	41	9	11
3.	Constructing Bridge for 1864	„	233	7	3
4.	Removing Bridge in 1863...	„	36	4	6
5.	Batta to Mamlutdar's Karkoons	„	394	11	0
6.	Making Guard huts	„	68	2	10
7.	Repairing roads around Fair	„	35	15	0
8.	Pay of Chowkydar Bheels...	„	1,185	10	10
9.	Ditto of Naka Karkoons ...	„	224	13	8
10.	Stationery, &c	„	58	6	3
11.	Repairing prisoners' room	„	0	11	0
12.	Public crier	„	0	7	0
13.	Cart hire for treasure, Mamlutdar's Cutcherry, &c.....	„	15	11	6
14.	Road to Railway Station ...	„	3,660	0	0
15.	Bridges of ditto	„	773	0	5
16.	Compensation to owners of fields through which road passes	„	139	0	6
17.	For repairs to Cutcherry, &c.	„	100	0	0
	Total.. Rupees		7,149	4	7

FAIR FUND.

Total Receipts in 1864	5,974	4	9
Ditto Disbursements	7,149	4	7
Balance due to Government from Fair Fund to be recovered from Receipts for 1865	1,174	15	10

31. From the above Abstract it will be seen that the disbursements of the present year exceed the receipts by Rupees 1174-15-10 which amount is due to Government from the Fair Fund, and will be recovered in the ensuing year. The reason for this excess of expenditure is owing to the large item paid on account of the Station road.

32. I have the honor to request that you will grant a sum of Rupees 200, to be expended in watering and looking after the trees, which sum would be recovered from the Fund hereafter. The cost of removing the Bridge this year and laying it down in 1865, has also to be arranged for, there being no balance in hand.

33. With reference to the explanation called for in paragraph 7 of Government Resolution on last year's report, I beg to inform you that the opium sold by Government is what is supplied to the authorised persons for retailing it in the Fair who can obtain whatever quantity he may require from Government only.

34. Vendors of poisonous substances are obliged to take out a license. The poisons such as "Somal" "Buchnag," &c. sold by them are mostly used for native medicines.

35. In conclusion I have much pleasure in bringing to you notice the excellent conduct of the Troops and Police employed under me owing to which no theft occurred, without the offenders being seized and punished, and I also wish to record the great assistance I at all times received from Pandoorung Sudashew, Mamlutdar, and Mahadajee Anunt, Foujdar, of Loharra.

STATEMENT.

APPENDIX A.

List of Goods of all descriptions, with their Quantities and Values, as correctly as they could possibly be ascertained, at the Mhyjee Fair, between the 23rd January and 18th March 1864.

Camp Dhurrungaum, 5th June 1864.

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.		
MEDICINES AND GROCERIES.	Mds.	Secrs.	Rs.	A.	P.
A					
Azmoda.—Sisonamni	94	...	460	0	0
Amsool.—Garcini Gambogia	20	7	800	1	0
Akulburra.—Anthimis Pyretorum	4	...	120	0	0
Al —Morinda Citrifolia...	54	...	468	0	0
Amulkuntee.—Dried Myrabolams	67	20	99	0	0
Ambehullud.—Turmeric coloured zedoary	31	20	151	0	0
Akrode.—Physolus flexnox	...	20	10	0	0
Abruck.—Talc	4	...	40	0	0
Ambarree.—Hibiscus Canabinus	25	...	140	0	0
Anjeer.—Figs	32	30	253	0	0
Atteevekh.—A medicinal root	...	20	40	0	0
Askund.—Physales Flexuosa	...	...	.....		
Vuhalew.—Sativum	...	...	.....		

Aood.—Frankincense	32	...	1,197	8	0
Assubgool.—Seed of the fleaworth	...	...	.....		
B					
Beemphool.—The marking nut	135	...	338	0	0
Balburda.—Chebulie Myrabolam	20	20	62	0	0
Baplia.—Gum Arabic	4	...	14	0	0
Boond.—Coffee	34	20	703	0	0
Bole.—Gum Myrrh	17	...	205	0	0
Beeroja.—A kind of Gum resin	7	...	45	0	0
Badam.—Almond	592	10	8,175	1	9
Bureeshope.—Aniseed	271	20	1,926	0	0
Bhooeemoong.—Ground nut	172	...	725	0	0
Bharunghie.—A sort of Medicine	1	20	9	0	0
Baidana.—Quince seed	½	...	50	0	0
Banghurkhar.—Glass Bangles	...	...	.....		
Bhooeemoong Dana.—Seed of the ground nut	320	...	1,150	0	0
Bhoj Puttree.—Bark of a tree	...	...	.....		
Bole Kalla.—Black Gum Myrrh	2	...	40	0	0
Bheelawah.—Marking nut	19	...	24	0	0
C					
Chaha.—Tea	...	20	65	0	0
Chuppra Lack.—Sealing Wax	283	20	9,251	0	0
Chundun.—Sandal wood	2	10	24	0	0
Charolee.—Seed of the Chironji Sapida	78	10	1,013	0	0
Chowke.—Medicinal powder	1	...	10	0	0

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.		
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
D								
Dig.—Gum	157	20	1,308	0	0			
Deekamallee,—A strong smelling resin the produce of Gardinia Gummifera	86	20	639	0	0			
Dugur Fool.—A medicinal substance made from stone ...	10	20	116	0	0			
Darroo Hullad.—A kind of Turmeric	...	...	.....					
Dalcheenee.—Cinnamon	148	20	1,521	1	0			
Dewdar.—A species of pine wood...	...	...	.....					
Dhuna.—Coriander seed	253	...	814	0	0			
Dhowtee Phool.—A flower used for medicines... ...	...	...	.....					
Dhumassa.—A thorn plant	...	...	.....					
F								
Futtackree.—Fire crackers	Boxes.	58	1,733	0	0			
Futturfool.—A kind of medicinal flower ...		...	.....					
G								
Gool.—Molasses	2,040	...	17,009	0	0			
Goolall.—Red powder	422	10	5,280	13	6			
Goolee.—Indigo	113	20	5,910	0	0			
Gundhuck.—Sulphur	46	20	569	0	0			
Gairoo.—Red Chalk	97	10	376	0	0			

Gokhroo.—Fruit of Tribulus Sanuginus	4	20	26	0	0
Gateecheeraeet.—A tonic medicine	...	...	.....		
Gopeechundun.—A white earth found at Dwarka ...	5	20	14	0	0
Gorumbee.—Kernel of the Balawa nut	57	10	1,099	0	0
Gorochun.—A substance obtained from the head of a cow...	...	...	.....		
Googool.—A medicine given to cattle	57	20	464	0	0
Goolabkullee.—Rosebuds	...	...	.....		
H					
Hing.—Assafœtida	77	20	1,648	0	0
Hurtal.—Yellow substance used in dyeing	3	...	150	0	0
Heerdai.—The produce of a jungle tree used in dyeing ...	152	...	315	0	0
Hingool.—Vermillion	1,270	...	1,536	4	0
Heermojee.—A sort of red ochre or earth	173	...	714	0	0
Heerakussee.—Green Vitriol	112	10	402	6	0
Hullud.—Turmeric	798	30	8,469	8	0
I					
Indurjew.—Medicinal seeds	2	...	22	0	0
J					
Joyputtree.—Nutmeg shell	6	...	278	0	0
Jumallgotai.—Croton seed	1	...	15	0	0
Jungal.—Green Dye	...	...	.....		
Joyphul.—Nutmeg	10	10	500	0	0
Jowlee Hullud.—Sort of Turmeric	679	20	8,622	0	0
Jowkhar.—Medicinal preparation...	1	...	12	0	0

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.			
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs. A. P.
Jeerai.—Cummin seed	453	10	9,654	0	0	
Jestmud.—Liquorice	...	...	.....			
K						
Khareek.—Dried dates	1,906	...	17,864	9	0	
Khurreesakhur—Sugar Candy	196	30	4,662	4	0	
Khobra.—Cocoanut	6,697	10	61,476	4	3	
Khurree.—White earth for white wash &c.	128	...	857	0	0	
Khujoor.—Moist Dates	362	30	2,146	5	0	
Kowree.—Small shell	90	...	252	0	0	
Kath.—Helebore	[illegible]	...	4,910	0	0	
Kajoo.—Cashew nuts	...	.	.....			
Kapoor.—Camphor	...	30	1,542	1	0	
Kurroo Cheerayeet.—Gentian	...	20	40	0	0	
Kallee Mooslee.—A medicinal root ...	...	30	61	0	0	
Kismis.—Raisins	...	...	598	14	0	
Kootkee.—Hellebore	...	30	404	0	0	
Koffee.—Coffee	...	...	150	0	0	
Kallejeela.—A medicinal seed	...	30	8	0	0	
Kuppeela.—Styrax or Benzoin	...	10	726	0	0	
Kustooree.—Musk	[illegible]	300	2,800	0	0	
Koonkoo.—Saffron	32	...	3,540	0	0	
Kostkoranjun.—Costus Arabicus	[illegible]	20	9	0	0	
Konnee.—A tonic medicine	4	20	93	0	0	

Koosoomb.—Safflower	...	...	...	2,214	20	44,275	0 0
Koyphul.—Kiliorum bark	...	...	...	2	20	25	0 0
Kaisor.—Saffron	...	...	...	7	20	335	0 0
Kapoorkuchlee.—Medicinal seeds..		...	...	4	10	39	0 0
L							
Lall Bole.—Red gum Myrrh	...	...	...	...	...	.....	
Lackh.—Sealing wax	...	...	...	224	...	2,674	0 0
Lowung.—Cloves	...	...	...	27	30	3,860	8 6
Lodh.—A dye	...	...	...	61	...	217	0 0
M							
Meera.—Black pepper	...	...	...	632	30	8,288	13 0
Moordarsing.—The pods of a jungle tree		...	...	...	...	.....	
Mahaindee.—Leaf of a tree used in dyeing		...	...	...	...	.....	
Myda Luckree.—A sort of drug		...	...	...	...	.....	
Munooka.—Dried Grapes	...	...	...	89	...	632	0 0
Men—Wax	...	...	...	...	20	10	0 0
Mekia.—A dried fruit	...	...	...	20	20	196	0 0
Munseel.—Red Sulphuret of arsenic		...	...	3	...	60	0 0
Meerchee.—Red chili	...	...	...	439	...	1,263	0 0
Moyphull.—A medicinal fruit	...	...	...	372	10	1,729	0 0
Munjeest.—A medicinal root	...	...	...	2	...	6	0 0
N							
Nurkuchoor.—A bark used in medicine		...	...	4	..	56	0 0
Nukhola.—Seed of jungle tree	...	...	...	...	10	15	0 0
Nowsagur.—Sal Ammonia	...	...	...	10	30	215	0 0

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.					
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Nagkaisur.—Cassia buds	29	10	307	0	0			
Narul.—Cocoanut in shell	Nos. 1226700		20,402	0	0			
P								
Paichuck.—The bark of a tree	300	...	786	0	0			
Puttung.—A wood used in dyeing	52	...	375	0	0			
Passhanbhed.—A saline powder...	29	...	184	0	0			
Paperkhar.—Carbonate of soda... ...	[illegible]	20	1,804	10	0			
Peetulputtree.—Brass in very thin sheets ...	[illegible]	1,104	2,167	0	0			
Pewlee Muttee.—Yellow earth	[illegible]	...	151	0	0			
Pimplee.—Long pepper	[illegible]	...	635	0	0			
Pimpla Mool.—Root of the pepper plant ...	[illegible]	20	2,310	0	0			
Punudee.—Smelling leaves	[illegible]	...	15	0	0			
Para.—Quicksilver	[illegible]	...	197	8	0			
Peestai.—The pistachio nut	[illegible]	20	75	0	0			
R								
Ramputtree.—Mace	[illegible]	20	218	0	0			
Rooma Mustkee.—The gum of mastick	...	20	30	0	0			
Ral.—Resin	116	20	1,418	0	0			

Rucktchundun.—Red sandal	...	...	.....				
Ruskapoor.—Corsive Sublimate...	1	...	192	0	0		
S							
Saindoor.—Read lead	59	...	1,014	0	0		
Sailud.—A medicinal seed	5	...	40	0	0		
Saipajeera.—A variety of seed	3	...	21	0	0		
Saindee Loan.—Rock salt	26	...	124	0	0		
Sungjeera.—A sort of Steatits	20	...	59	0	0		
Soont.—Dry ginger	167	20	2,314	14	0		
Sujeekhar.—A kind of salt	110	20	475	12	0		
Shahajeera.—A medicial seed	95	20	1,381	1	0		
Sorah.—Saltpetre	55	20	607	0	0		
Singara.—The fruit of a water plant	64	20	551	0	0		
Soopareeful.—Flower of a sooparee plant	...	20	25	0	0		
Soorworree Hurde.—The produce of a tree used in medicine...	...	30	15	0	0		
Sunchul.—A kind of salt	50	20	327	0	0		
Sooparee.—Nut	5,072	30	72,035	5	9		
Swaghee.—Borax	26	20	504	0	0		
Singroop.—Vermilion	...	30	100	0	0		
Sootlee.—Twine	50	10	672	0	0		
Sainde Meet.—Black salt	36	...	147	0	0		
Singtrass.—A kind stone	16	20	63	0	0		
Sakur.—Sugar	452	10	5,7927	14	6		
Sonamekee.—Senna leaves	58	20	275	0	0		
Sallum Misree.—Salep	7	2	565	0	0		
Sookaila —Dried plantain	1	20	15	0	0		
Suffaid Mooslee.—A medicinal root	15	...	126	0	0		
Sun.—Hemp	266	20	1,266	0	0		
Soowoda Mooky.—A medicinal preparation	1	10	10	0	0		

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.					
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
T								
Toortee.—Alum	907	30	4,817	0	0			
Tejputtree.—A medicinal leaf	28	...	210	0	0			
Toop.—Ghee	1,978	20	72,850	12	6			
Taleemkhana.—Seed of particular tree	4	...	49	0	0			
Tumbakhoo.—Tobacco	691	20	4,199	0	0			
Tookmuraee.—Seed of a jungle tree	3	...	30	0	0			
V								
Vala.—Khuskhus	[illegible]	20	151	0	0			
Vova.—Carraway seed	[illegible]	20	86	0	0			
Voykoombha.—A medicinal fruit... ...	[illegible]	...	31	0	0			
Vaildorah.—Cardamon	[illegible]	30	1,330	0	0			
Vaila.—Cardamon seeds	[illegible]	30	1,936	8	0			
Vaikhund.—A medicinal root	[illegible]	30	272	0	0			
Vonneelochun	[illegible]	0	10	0	0			
Total Groceries &c....	...	...	.....			5,20,752	11	9

Grains.	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	A.	P.
Wheat	33	...	914	0	0
Grain	14	96	372	0	0
Rice	121	48	5,009	0	0
Jwaree	37	...	694	0	0
Bajree	4	...	97	0	0
Ooreed	47	...	1,040	0	0
Mussoor	...	96	17	0	0
Rajgeera	7	...	112	0	0
Kurdayee	...	...	.....		
Moong	1	48	29	0	0
Toor	7	...	175	0	0
Dall of Toor	38	...	1,472	0	0
Dallia	16	48	688	0	0
Dal of Gram	...	...	.....		
Teelee	7	...	217	0	0
Linseed	1	...	5	0	0
Sal	16	...	320	0	0
Footana	...	...	.....		
Castor	...	...	.....		
Chowlee	...	...	.....		
Wuttanai	1	...	45	0	0
Kooleeth	...	96	9	0	0
Moormooray	12	96	185	0	0
Pohey	2	...	60	0	0
Ambaree Seeds	1	48	15	0	0
Salt	210	...	4,852	0	0
Mut	...	...	.....		
Mut ground	...	...	.....		

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.		
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs. A. P.		
Flour of Wheat	823	96	3,384 0 0		
Do of Jwaree	11	96	31 0 0		
Do of Gram	...	96	2 0 0		
Dal of Gram	11	96	468 0 0		
Dal of Moong	...	48	7 0 0		
Total of Grains &c.. Rs	...	...	.....	20,219	0 0

Description of Goods.	Value.		
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
Silk	5,832 0 0		
Cullabuttoo	12 0 0		
Sweetmeat	6,985 0 0		
Duffde	40 0 0		
Munior	51,675 0 0		
Scented oil	105 0 0		
Printed Book	2,965 0 0		
Snuff	2,310 0 0		
Papers	396 0 0		

Firewood	27	0	0
Boorud work	8	0	0
Bombeel	240	0	0
Oil	1,262	0	0
Ganjia	1,728	0	0
Milk and Curd	9	0	0
Liquor Contractor	5,025	0	0
Tin man	.....		
Tambutkur	.....	0	0
Putwa work	370	0	0
Ginger	10	0	0
Turner	4	0	0
Tailor's work	90	0	0
Dyer	385	0	0
Carpenter's work	.....		
Iron smith	.....	0	0
Tumbollee	892	0	0
Keenaree	1,600	0	0
Mats	44	0	0
Turrut Puttree	6	0	0
Oil cake	179	0	0
Tuttees	32	0	0
Stone work	600	0	0
Ropes	.....		
Vegetables	318	0	0
Shoes	440	0	0
Leather	265	0	0
Boodhlai	83	0	0
Cotton Seeds	521	0	0
Wood	5,213	0	0
Bamboos	1,153	0	0

Description of Goods.	Value.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. P. A.
Grass	216 0 0	
Kurbee	830 0 0	
Cow Dung cake	10 0 0	
Charcoal	10 0 0	
Tapes	1,491 0 0	
Carts	1,725 0 0	
Smith's work	2 0 0	
Ghutkhar	.....	
Kaileekhar	.....	
Butcher's work	95 0 0	
Bangries	1,598 0 0	
Broom	1 0 0	
Total of Miscellaneous articles.....Rs.	.....	96,802 0 0
CATTLE.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Bullocks	14,700 0 0	
Horses	225 0 0	
Buffaloes	92 0 0	
Goats	707 0 0	
Male Buffaloes	5 0 0	
Camels	.....	
Mares	175 0 0	
Total of Cattle.....Rs.	.....	15,904 0 0

METALS.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Brass	72,260	0	0			
Copper	62,949	9	0			
Kassa	2,930	0	0			
Votaree	310	0	0			
Just	1,592	0	0			
Iron Soortee	31,581	0	0			
Bhuttoor	1,000	0	0			
Iron acepeth	.....					
Beed	90	0	0			
Tin	1,689	0	3			
Lead	1,024	0	0			
Steel	1,251	0	0			
Total of Metal Bazar.....Rs.	.....			1,76,676	0	3

JEWELLER'S BAZAR.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Pearls	41,100	0	0			
Coral Beads	7,600	0	0			
Gold	1,06,506	0	0			
Gold ornaments	8,050	0	0			
Silver	67,756	0	0			
Silver ornaments	7,000	0	0			
Jewels	.....					
Total of Jewellers Bazar....Rs	.....			2,38,012	0	0

Description of Goods.			Value.		
PIECE GOODS &c.			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Cloth made in Khandeish consisting of all articles forming the apparel of male and female Natives			2,00,707 14 0		
Cloth made at Yeola			2,86,110 0 0		
Ditto at Ahmednuggur			31,350 0 0		
Ditto at Sholapoor			45,700 0 0		
Ditto at Boorhanpoor			89,375 0 0		
Ditto at Surat and Ahmedabad			1,87,900 0 0		
Ditto at Nagpoor Berar			3,53,653 0 0		
Ditto at Europe			5,07,417 11 0		
Twist			23,350 0 0		
Koonohie and Caps for Children			1,765 0 0		
	Total of cloth of all kinds.....Rs.		.....	17,27,328 9 0	
COTTON.			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Cotton cleaned			19,702 0 0		
Bardan or Bags for holding Cotton			13,080 0 0		
	Total of Raw Cotton.....Rs.		.....	32,782 0 0	
Copper Coins			.....	2,592 2 0	
Banking business			.....	1,86,670 0 0	

Abstract of the foregoing.

Groceries, Medicines, &c.....Rs.	5,20,752	11	9
Grains, &c..... „	20,219	0	0
Miscellaneous articles..... „	96,802	0	0
Cattle ..... „	15,904	0	0
Jeweller's Bazar ..... „	2,38,012	0	0
Cloth Bazar ..... „	17,27,328	9	0
Metal Bazar..... „	1,76,676	0	3
Cotton and Gunny Bags..... „	23,782	0	0
Copper Coins ..... „	2,594	2	0
Hoondee Bazar ..... „	1,86,670	0	0
Grand Total.....Rs.	30,17,740	7	0
Deduct amount of Goods unsold as per Appendix B... „	4,98,889	11	0
Leaving Total of business done in the Fair..... „	25,18,850	12	0

F. J. WISE, Lieutenant,

Superintendent of Mhyjee Fair.

APPENDIX B.

List of goods remaining unsold at the termination of the Mhyjee Fair.

Cotton cloth of Khandeish	22,625	8	0
Ditto of Berar	60,005	0	0
Ditto of Yeola	61,273	0	0
Ditto of Sholapoor	13,950	0	0
Ditto of Ahmednuggur	7,450	0	0
Ditto of Ahmedabad	41,725	0	0
Ditto of Europe	1,63,079	11	0
Ditto of Boorhanpoor	30,900	0	0
	4,01,008	3	0
Jewellers	11,165	0	0
Gold and Silver	43,621	0	0
Copper Coins	90	0	0
Metal Bazar	28,741	12	0
Miscellaneous Articles	10,275	0	0
Groceries and Medicines, &c	3,988	2	0
Total.....Rs.	4,98,889	11	0

F. J. Wise, Lieutenant,
Superintendent of Mhyjee Fair.

RESOLUTION.—The arrangements made for maintaining order at the Mhyjee Fair of 1864 seem to have been very judicious. It is creditable to Lieutenant Wise and to the Military and Police Force employed under him that only 4 petty thefts were committed during the fair, and that in each case the offender was detected and punished. The Honorable the Governor in Council observes that the services of the Mamlutdar and Foujdar of Lohara are acknowledged by Lieutenant Wise.

2. The serious outbreak of Cholera at the fair gave a check to business transactions, and as the Honorable Mr. Ellis truly remarks, it is a matter for surprise that these transactions were so considerable as they were. The circumstances of the fair were so manifestly exceptional that no comparison can be profitably instituted between its transactions and those of former fairs.

3. The proposal for deputing a Medical Officer to the fair, with medicines, has been adopted for the fair of 1865, and the Principal Inspector General Medical Department should report how it can be best carried into effect in future.

4. The method of obtaining statistical information adopted by the Collector of Khandeish is decidedly an improvement on that hitherto in force. If carried out with care and tact it will no doubt work well. Lieutenant Wise seems to have been aware of the necessity for obtaining the co-operation of the traders themselves, and to his good sense in the matter must be mainly ascribed the success that has attended the first trial of the system.

5. The attention of the Railway Department should be drawn to the complaints made in paragraghs 21 to 24 of Lieutenant Wise's report. The Honorable the Governor in Council is glad to notice a decrease in the number of robberies of goods sent by rail to the fair.

6. The expenditure chargeable to the Fair Fund has exceeded the receipts on account of the fund. This is probably in some part due to the check which the fair met with by the outbreak of Cholera as well as to the expense incurred in constructing the road from the place where the fair is held to the Mhyjee Railway Station. The cost of this road, Rupees 4,572-0-11 (or Rupees 2,052-12-2 a mile) cannot be held to be excessive. The question of placing a toll on this road can be considered in the Public Works Department. The arrangements referred to in paragragh 12 of the Honorable Mr. Ellis' letter are approved.

7. Copies of these papers should be sent to Her Majesty's

Secretary of State and to the Government of India, and placed on the Editor's table. The Chamber of Commerce should also be requested to favour Government with any remarks which may occur to them on any of the subjects discussed in these papers.

H. BIRDWOOD,
Under Secretary to Government.

To The Commissioner of Police N. D.
The Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.
The Railway Department.
The Public Works Department
The Editor's Room.

PETITION FOR A PIECE GOODS BAZAAR.

To the MEMBERS to the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Bombay.

GENTLEMEN,—We, the promoters of the Bombay Piece Goods Bazaar Corporation Limited, beg herewith to forward thirty copies of the petition to Government by the Piece Goods Merchants of Bombay with the hope that the prayer thereof may meet with your sympathy and approbation, and that you may be pleased to support the same by forwarding to Government a favorable expression of your views thereon.—We beg to remain, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

૧. લખ્મીદાશ ખીમજી.
LAKHMIDAS KHIMJI.

૧. ભાણજી નંદુ.
BHANJI NANDU.

૧. ઠાકર ખેમજી ઉધવજી.
KHIMJI ODHAVJI

૧. ઠાકર ઠાકરજી મુલજી.
THAKARSY MULJI.

૧. ઠાકર કરશનદાશ હલુ.
KARSANDAS HALU.

૧. ઠાકર મેવજી પરેમજી.
MAVJI PREMJI,

૧. ઠાકર જેઠાભાઈ ધારશી.
JETHABHAI DHARSY.

૧. પાલનજી હોરમસજી.
PALANJI HORMASJI.

Piece Goods Market, Bombay, 11th February, 1865.

To His Excellency Sir H. Bartle Frere, K. C. B.,
Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

The humble petition of the merchants and dealers in Piece Goods at Bombay.

Sheweth,—The most productive branch of industry, on which the prosperity of the British nation in a great measure depends, is the manufacture and exportation of Piece Goods, a very large portion whereof finds its way to the British dominions in the East and the countries trading therewith, chiefly through the Emporium of Bombay. The Piece Goods which are either consumed, or purchased by foreign and up-country merchants and agents, in Bombay, principally pass through the hands of your petitioners, who constitute the so called Piece Goods Bazar of this place, whose transactions therefore involve various large interests, namely; first of the British manufacturers and exporters of Piece Goods both in England and at Bombay; secondly of the general body of consumers in India and elsewhere; thirdly of the Government, who derive considerable revenue therefrom; and lastly of your petitioners, forming the largest section of the trading community of Bombay. Your Excellency in council will therefore regard the grievances of your petitioners, arising out of circumstances that threaten to mar the prosperity of the Piece Goods trade in Bombay, as deserving of your earnest consideration.

Importance of the subject matter of this petition.

2. The present Piece Goods Bazaar is composed of stalls or shops, arranged in double rows facing each other and forming what are called "gullies," which are shaded and darkened, in most places by the eaves of the low roofs projecting in the front. The passage in these gullies is so narrow and crowded with cases and goods that the buyer, passing along them, must needs brush his clothes there against on either side. The bulk of the shops are built of very light, temporary and combustible materials, and in the event of a fire, the conflagration is likely to imperil the whole mass. There are about 20 such gullies divided into two or three batches, which contain about 400 stalls all within an area of about 13,000 square yards. These densely packed congeries, of miserable low-roofed cells have no regard for ventilation, light or cleanliness, and constitute a permanent nuisance and disgrace to Bombay, and the first grievance of your petitioners.

Petitioners' first Grievance.

3. The second grievance of your petitioners arises out of the monopoly of the landlord, owning these premises, who charges an exhorbitant rent. An idea of the same may be formed from the fact that each of these stalls, scarcely measuring 13 by 7 feet, pays a rent ranging from Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 per annum. The largest spot, measuring about 9,000 square yards, had cost its late landlord Rupees three lacs and a half, and yielded him Rs. 90,000 per annum, or upwards of 26 per cent yearly on the capital! Your petitioners always felt this heavy charge as a great hardship, but submitted to it out of shere necessity.

Petitioners' second Grievances.

4. Grievous as is the present position of your petitioners, it is greatly aggravated by certain changes, which threaten to stifle the prosperity of their trade. Your Excellency in Council may have heard that the late landlord of the largest section of the Piece Goods Bazar has sold the same for the enormous sum of 35 lacs of Rupees to certain members of a financial association who in conjunction with others have started a new company called the Bombay Bazaar and Land Investment Company Limited with a capital of (Rs. 60,00,000) sixty Lacs of Rupees, in 3000 shares of Rs. 2000 each:—and it is plain that in order to get the moderate income of 9 per cent., they must increase the rent of the shops to at least four or five times the present amount; that is from Rs. 400 @ 600 to Rs. 2000 @ 3000. This must undoubtedlly upset the trade. Your Excellency in Council may easily conceive the fear your petitioners are placed under of being soon burdened with a tax they can never afford to pay, and with a liability of being turned out any moment at the pleasure of this body. This is, therefore, your petitioners' third and last grievance.

Petitioners' third and last grievance.

5. In order to extricate themselves from their present position, and from their future liability of being bought and sold over by successive landlords, and subjected to their exaction of enormous rents, your petitioners have thought of uniting together for the purpose of erecting a Bazar for themselves on a suitable locality under certain conditions calculated to protect their interest permanently. With this view they have proposed the following arrangements.

Remedy which the petitioners propose.

I. To form a Joint stock Company to be called "the Bombay Piece Goods Bazaar Corporation, Limited," with a Capital

of Rupees (60,00,000) sixty Lacs in 3000 shares of Rs. 2,000 each, with power to increase.

II. To distribute the shares only among themselves and such others as have the welfare of the Piece Goods trade at heart, to be allotted by a committee of eight promoters, who are some of the largest and most respectable Piece Goods merchants, and whose names appear first at the foot of this petition.

III. To obtain by purchase from Government the most eligible ground equal to (30,000) thirty thousand square yards at a fair and reasonable valuation.

IV. To erect shops thereon upon the most approved scientifi principles, equal regard being had to architectural beauty, non-combustibility of the materials, cleanliness and ventilation.

V. To build warehouses on nearly half of the ground, which your Excellency will perceive, is a new and striking feature in your petitioner's scheme.

VI. To introduce a covenant in the articles of association of the Company, limiting the charge of rent on each shop, as nearly as may be, to the rates paid at present.

VII. To provide for exigencies of the future progressive state of Bombay.

6. From the foregoing statement it will be obvious to your Excellency in Council that your petitioners' above scheme has several advantages over that of the other Company, in most essential particulars, some of which are as follows:

Certain obvious advantages which the petitioners' scheme has over the other company.

I. Whereas that company is a mere speculative body of outside people seeking profitable investment for their capital, and is so unpopular in the eyes of the public that its shares are at a discount in the bazaar. The Company prosposed by your petitioners including almost all the Piece Goods merchants is set up solely for the purpose of protecting the interest of the Piece Goods Bazaar.

II Whereas the other Company has paid (35) thirty-five Lacs of Rupees only for 9000 square yards of ground, your petitioners hope to purchase from Government more than three times as much—namely 30,000 square yards, for a much less sum.

III. At present the Piece Goods Warehouses are situated in different parts of the town, from and to which your petitioners have to bring their Goods at a considerable cost in the shape of cart and cooly hire. Sometimes the Goods are stolen by dishonest cart-drivers on the way. Much time is also lost in moving from one warehouse to another. When your petitioners shall have built their own warehouses quite contiguous to their shops, as they propose to do, not only all the above mentioned expence and inconveniences will be saved, but additional facilities will be afforded towards effecting sales and deliveries in general.

IV. The rents realized from these warehouses will certainly exceed the rents to be got from the shops. In other words more than half the income will be derived from these warehouses.

V. For the reasons mentioned in preceding II, III and IV clauses of this para, your petitioners' Company will be enabled to accomplish the principal aim of their present movement of keeping down the rents of their present rates, to secure which object, it will be observed, a special clause is to be introduced in the articles of association.

VI. The contrast between the present Market as described in para 2nd, and one proposed to be built as mentioned in clause IV of para 5th will be so great that it requires no comment.

7. Your petitioners humbly hope that your Excellency in Council will not fail to sympathise with them in their grievances and to afford them every countenance so as to enable them to carry out their project.

Your petitioners therefore beg most respectfully to pray that your Excellency in Council will be pleased to allot to them the two plots of ground on the esplanade which are marked out on the accompanying plan by a pink line, at a reasonably moderate price, which your Excellency may be pleased to name after due consideration of the important and public nature of their cause as indicated in para 1st of this petition.

And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray,

LAKHMIDAS KHIMJI.	BHANJI NANDU.
KHIMJI ODHAVJI.	JETHABHAI DHARSY.
THAKARSY MULJI.	PALANJI HORMASJI.
MAVJI PREMJI,	and 350 others.
KARSANDAS HALU.	

Bombay, Piece Goods Market, February 8th, 1865.

No. 23 of 1865.

To E. W. Ravenscroft, Esq.,
Offg. Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,—With reference to the accompanying printed copy of a petition to His Excellency the Governor in Council, from the Piece Goods Merchants of Bombay,—which has also been brought to the notice of the Chamber of Commerce.

I have the honour to state, by the direction of the Committee, for the information of Government that the petitioners are well known to the members of the Chamber, as the leading dealers in what forms the principal article of the import trade of Western India, that the statement of grievances set forth, and the allegations made in the petition, are true: and the Committee desire me to express, respectfully their opinion, that the prayer of these Merchants is deserving of the sympathy and the favorable consideration of Government.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant.

(Signed) James Taylor,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, February 18th 1865.

No. 25 of 1865.

To Messrs. Luckmidass Khimjee, Bhanjee Nundo, Khimjee Odowjee and others, Bombay.

Gentlemen,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 11th instant handing 30 copies of a printed petition to his Excellency the Governor in Council with a request that the Chamber of Commerce would support the prayer of the same in a representation to Government.

In reply I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber to inform you that they have had much pleasure in stating to Government that your petition was deserving of favorable consideration at its hands, and I have the honor to enclose herewith for you information copy of the Chamber's letter to Government on the subject.—I am gentlemen, your obedient servant,

(Signed) James Taylor,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 20th February 1865.

TRADE IN SANDALWOOD—MYSORE AND COORG.

No. 284.

From Major A. HUNTER,
Conservator of Forests, Mysore and Coorg.

To the CHAIRMAN of the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Bombay.

SIR,—Sandalwood from the Provinces of Mysore and Coorg is exported to Bombay in very large quantities, and it is desirable that its classification should be such as to meet the wishes of the merchants at Bombay. It is with this view I take the liberty of addressing you on the subject.

2. Upset prices having been discontinued, see copy Rules marked A., the prices realized at the last auction at Seringapatam on our present system of classification were as follows :—

1st Class	...	...	...	Rs.	98 per candy.
2nd do...	...	...	...	„	100 do.
3rd do.	...	...	...	„	95 do.
4th do.	...	...	...	„	91 do.
5th do.	...	...	...	„	86 do.
Roots.	...	...	...	„	94 do.
Small Billets		...	...	„	83 do.
Chips	...	...	...	„	26 do.
Powder	...	...	...	„	72 do.

The present mode of classification, see document marked B, entails great expense to Government and a large establishment is kept up for the purpose of preparing and collecting the Sandalwood, and we are unable to obtain the prices formerly realized for 1st and 2nd Class.

3. Third, fourth, and fifth class sandal and roots meet with a ready sale, and it is, therefore, evident that the system of classification requires to be altered and simplified to meet the demand of the Bombay market, and with this view I think the Bombay merchants might be consulted with advantage both to themselves and to the Mysore Forest Department and the result communicated to me.

4. The Mysore Province principally supplies the Indian market with Sandalwood as the export from the Madras Border Districts of Canara ; Salem, and Coimbatore cannot be great. It is used chiefly for the following purposes:—

1st. For working into carved boxes, fans, images, and other fancy articles.

2nd. For the purpose of being applied externally to the persons of Natives.

3rd. For the purpose of distilling Sandal oil.

4th. For keeping holy fire in the houses and temples of Parsees, and burning the dead bodies of Hindoos, Jains, &c.

The 1st and 2nd sorts of wood were always used for the first mentioned purpose, the 3rd, 4th and 5th for the 2nd purpose, and all roots and Bugur adut for the 3rd purpose, and all chips and part of Bugur adut for the 4th purpose. For many years the demand for 1st and 2nd sorts of wood for the 1st mentioned purpose was in great demand, and it has always been carefully prepared at great expense, but of late years the demand for these descriptions have fallen off, I suppose, on account of sandal being exported in large quantities in the rough from the the Feejee and other Islands to China and other places where fancy articles are manufactured.

5. I therefore propose that Sandalwood should be classified as follows:—in Billets of 30 inches long cleaned of all sapwood and sold by weight as heretofore, but wish to know what system of classification the merchants wish adopted. The reason why the market prefer it in Billets of 30 inches is a mystery to me. The tree is most abundant and it is felled all the year round, the ripe tree if in hard ground is generally 9 inches in diameter, and if in soft soil may be 18 inches, and a large tree produces about 2 maunds or 60 pounds. Roots are dug up in the wet weather and sales can take place at any fixed periods that would best suit the merchant.

1st Class. All sound Billets of 4 inches in diameter and upwards which will suit for the 1st purpose.

2nd Class. All other Billets whether sound or hollow which will suit for the 2nd purpose.

3rd Class. All roots whether sound or hollow for the 3rd purpose.

4th Class. All small branches and pieces of about 2 feet each for the 4th purpose.

5th Class. Chips.

6th Class. Powder or Booknee.—I have the honor to be, Sir your most obedient servant,

(Signed) A. HUNTER, Major,
Conservator of Forests, Mysore and Coorg.

Conservator of Forest's Office, Yelwall, 7th January 1865.

A.

RULES FOR SANDALWOOD AUCTION RULES.

1st. Every auction sale shall be held in the presence of the Superintendent or Deputy Superintendent of the District, or Conservator, or Assistant Conservator of Forests.

2nd. The apartment of the Sandalwood as made by the Public authorities will on no account be disturbed.

3rd. The highest bidder shall be the purchaser, and in the event of any dispute arising between two or more bidders at the same price, the lot so disputed shall be put up again and re-sold.

4th. The former system of upset prices is abrogated, but in the event of the first 3 lots in each class not averaging such a price as may be considered a fair market value by the officer presiding, he shall be at liberty should he deem it proper so to do, to stop all further sales in that class.

5th Any surplus that may be found in weighing the quantity sold for delivery to the purchaser will be charged to him at the same rate at which the lot is sold.

6th. A candy in the Mysore Province is equal to 560 English pounds, or 20 maunds of 40 seers, but that of the Coorg Province is equal to 550 pounds only.

7th. The wood will be handed over to the purchaser at the Sandal kotees, and the whole quantity purchased must be paid for and taken possession of, within 30 days from the date of the sale.

8th. Any quantity which may remain unpaid for at the expiration of 30 days from the date of the sale, will be re-sold at the risk of the first purchaser, and should the wood paid for not be removed from the Sirkar kotees within three months, from

the date of payment, kotee rent at the rent of 4 annas per candy will be charged from date of sale. It will then be weighed in the presence of one of the Forest Assistants, and removed out of the kotees, and the losses arising therefrom shall be borne by the purchaser. The Government do not hold itself answerable for the loss of weight arising from the wood being kept in store after sale.

9th. The purchaser shall after the sale deposit a sum equal to 25 per cent. of the amount of his purchase, to be forfeited to the Government on failure of his adhering to the terms above specified.

10th. It is to be understood that in conformity with existing rules, no Sandalwood can be sold by private individuals within the Mysore Territories or pass without a passport, which will be granted on application by the Forest or Revenue Authorities.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. HUNTER, Major,
Conservator of Forests Mysore and Coorg.

B.

PRESENT MODE OF CLASSIFYING SANDALWOOD IN THE ASTAGRAM DIVISION OF MYSORE.

1st SORT.

Selection of logs for the "Ine" or the superior kind.

1. Any number of logs within 40, each weighing not less than 20 seers will make one kandy of 800 seers or 560 lbs. in the aggregate.

Selection of logs for the "Ibe" or the Inferior kind.

1. Any number of logs each weighing from between 100 to 140 seers may be taken to the quantity of one kandy, provided each is hurted, knotty, and with a hollow cut of 4 inches in the middle of either side.

2nd SORT.

"Ine" or Superior.

1. Any number of logs within 60, each weighing from between 13 to 19 seers, will make one kandy.

"Ibe" or Inferior.

1. Any number of logs each weighing from between 20 to 100 seers of the description alluded to for the inferior kind of the 1st sort will make one kandy.

2. Any number of logs each weighing from between 100 to 140 seers may be taken to the quantity of one kandy, provided each log is split, knotty, and with a hollow cut of 7 inches in the centre of either side.

3rd SORT.

1. Any number of logs within 80, each weighing between 10, and 12 seers or 7 lbs. will make one kandy.

"Ine" or Superior.

1. Do. of do. each weighing from between 13 to 20 seers may be taken to the quantity of one kandy, provided each is hurted, and has a hollow cut of 4 inches on either of its sides.

"Ibe" or Inferior.

2. Do. of do. each weighing upwards of 100 seers and is bnet, also hurted, and with 3 knots (one large and two small) and a hollow in the centre to half the length, may be taken to the quantity of one kandy.

3. Do. of do. each weighing not more than 100 seers and has a hurted surface with knots and a cut of 7 inches in the centre of either side may be taken to the quantity of one kandy.

4th SORT.

1. Any number of logs within 100, each weighing not less than 8 seers or 5½ lb. will make one kandy.

"Ine" or Superior.

1. Any number of logs to the quantity of one kandy may be taken, provide each log weighs from between 10 to 13 seers and is a slant, hurted, knotty, and with a hollow cut of 4 inches in the centre of either side.

"Ibe" or Inferior.

2. Do. of do. may be taken equal to one kandy provided each log weighs not more than 20 seers and is hurted as above with a hollow of 7 inches in the middle of either side.

3. Do. of do. in case each log weighs from between 20 to 100 seers, with curves, 2 knots, and a hollow in the centre to half the length of the log.

4. Do. of do. should each log weigh above 100 seers, and is bent knotty, has also a hollow in the middle throughout its length.

5TH SORT.

1. Numbers 200 loss, each weighing not more than 4 seers or 2¾ lbs. to make one kandy.

"Ine" or Superior.

1. As many logs as require to make up one candy may be taken provided each exceeds not 4 seers in weight.

"Ibe" or Inferior.

6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th sorts being only roots and small pieces do not require more explanation than what is mentioned in the foregoing statement.

(True Copy.)

(Singed) A. HUNTER, Major,
Conservator of Forests, Mysore and Coorg.

No. 8 of 1865.

To Major A. HUNTER,
Conservator of Forests, Mysore and Coorg.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, asking for the opinion of the Chamber on certain changes which you propose in the classification of Sandalwood particularly in reference to the export of this article from the Mysore Provinces to Bombay.

In reply, I have to inform you that the trade in Sandalwood is entirely in the hands of the natives here, it is used almost entirely for native purposes, no merchants belonging to the Chamber have anything to do with it, and as the article is only occasionally and in small quantities exported to Europe, the Committee regret their inability to give any suggestions for your guidance on the points on which you ask for information.

In conclusion, I am directed to express the acknowledgment of the Committee for your interesting and informing communication, which details the various uses for which Sandalwood is required, in a clearer manner than any other communication on the same subject, which has come before them,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, January 23rd 1865.

REGULATION FOR THE SALE OF WASTE LANDS, BOMBAY.

To the PRESIDENT and MEMBERS of the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Bombay.

GENTLEMEN,—In consequence of a decision of the Chamber of Commerce at this place we have been directed to obtain some information about the sale of Governmental waste lands unto private parties, a question which may be considered as among the foremost, affecting the public industry in this Colony, and accordingly take the liberty to address you by the present, requesting of you the favour to forward to us a printed copy of the Regulations, under which Government at yours is willing to yield uncultivated grounds to private individuals.

We beg to express our thanks for the kind favour thus shown, trusting the aim which leads us may serve to excuse our troubling you, and assuring you that we at all times will be found ready to reciprocate in whatever manner.—We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,

(Signed) A. R. P. ORAMERUS,
Vice-President of the Batavia Chamber of Commerce,

(Signed) L. J. H. BOUMAN,
Secretary of the same.

Batavia 24th, February 1865.

No. 47 OF 1865.

F. S. CHAPMAN, Esq.,
Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—The Chamber of Commerce here has been applied to by the Chamber of Commerce Batavia, Java, for a printed copy of the Regulations under which the Bombay Government disposes

of waste lands in this presidency together with any other Official information that we may be able to afford on this subject.

As the Chamber has no information of this kind at its disposal, I am directed by the Committee to address you on the subject, and to request the favour of your supplying the Chamber with two copies of any Resolutions or Regulations which may have been put forth by the Government of Bombay on the subject of waste lands and their sale in this Presidency,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary,

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 27th March 1865.

No. 1341 OF 1865.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—With reference to your letter No. 47, dated the 27th instant, I beg to forward to you two copies of Government Resolution, No. 2562, dated the 3rd August 1863, on the subject of redeeming the land tax on "lands required for dwelling houses, factories, gardens, plantations and other similar purposes," and to state that the rules for the disposal of waste lands have not yet been promulgated,—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,
Officiating Under Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 30th March 1865.

No. 2562.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

RESOLUTION,—Paragraph 26 of the despatch from the Secretary of State, dated 9th July 1862, gives Government a discretionary power to allow redemption of the land-tax on "lands

required for dwelling houses, factories, gardens, plantations, and other similar purposes."

2. This power of redemption will meet the reasonable wishes of the proprietors of houses at Panchguuny and elsewhere who are anxious to secure themselves against future enchancement of the assessment on land, where they have expended large sums in building and other improvements.

3. The Revenue Commissioners and the Commissioner in Sind should, therefore, be authorized to receive and submit to Government for sanction applications from the proprietors of lands, of the nature above indicated, for leave to commute the land revenue assessed on such lands for a single payment, in return for which the proprietor will receive a deed exempting such land from land-tax for ever.

4. The rules for calculating the price to be paid, and for the investment of the proceeds, are laid down in paragraph 75* of the Secretary of State's Despatch.

5. The Secretary of State's Despatch prescribe as (paragraphs 25 and 75, &c.) that redemption shall only be allowed where the revenue is found to be fairly assessed, so that the permission given will not apply where there is any reason to believe the land-tax is otherwise than fairly assessed at its full amount.

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 3rd August 1863.

No. 61 OF 1865.

To the PRESIDENT of the CHAMBER of COMMERCE, Batavia.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge the receipt of

* "75. With regard to the investment of the amount which may be received by the Government from the sale of waste lands, or in commutation of land revenue, I observe that it is declared in para 56 of the Resolution* that, "with a view to secure the Government and the public creditor against any loss of existing sources of Government income, provision will be made by law that all sums paid in purchase of waste lands, or in redemption of land revenue, or in otherwise forestalling the land revenue, shall be paid to Commissioners, and periodically invested in such manner as the law may direct," and that the reports of the Commissioners shall be regularly published. In reference to this arrangement, I have to desire that all monies received on these accounts should be invested, not periodically, but as soon as practicable, and, as a rule in the Four per cent. Loan. The price of redemption should be variable according to the actual value at the time of that stock, so that the amount paid, when so invested, may produce a dividend equivalent to the annual revenue which will thereon cease to be received."

* Resolution of Government of India, dated 17th October 1861.

your letter of 24th February asking for information regarding the sale of Government Waste Lands in this presidency, and requesting to be favored with a printed copy of "the Regulation, under which this Government is willing to yield uncultivated grounds to private individuals."

As the Chamber does not possess the information you require we applied to Government on the subject, and received in answer to our application the manuscript copy (there being no printed copies) of rules in reference to grants of lands for building purposes, &c. &c., which I have the pleasure to enclose herewith.

This paper, the Committee fear, is not likely to be of much service to you, but it appears from the answer which the Bombay Government returned to the letter of the Committee, that no rules for the sale of Waste Lands in this presidency have yet been promulgated.

While regretting that in the present case it is not in the power of the Committee to supply the information you desiderate, I am directed in conclusion to state, that it will afford them much pleasure to be of use to the Batavia Chamber of Commerce here in any way in which their services may be required.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 14*th April* 1865.

Disbursements.				Receipts.			
Rent ... ...Rs.	1,950	0	0	Balance from last year ... ...Rs.	2,464	4	10
Printing ... ... „	1,217	0	0	Since paid in ... ... „	1,248	8	0
Advertisements ... ... „	702	6	7	Subscriptions ... ... „	15,765	0	0
Newspapers and Books ... ... „	97	0	0	Sale of Manifests and Trade Returns ... ... „	3,538	4	0
Furniture... ... ... „	140	0	0	Realised from the Kurrachee Chamber for messages ... „	147	1	0
Whukbu Cotton gins, presented to Captain Atkinson ... ... „	112	0	0	Ditto by subscriptions for prosecution and reward on E. Telegraph... ... ... „	7,296	0	0
Electric Telegraph Messages ... „	4,275	4	11	Sale of Report and Tonnage Scale, &c. ... ... „	5	0	0
Ditto Prosecution and Reward ... ... „	7,500	0	0	Interest allowed by the Treasurers „	46	3	0
Stationery ... ... „	222	15	0	Total...Rupees	30,505	4	10
Postage Stamps ... ... „	58	12	0				
Office salaries and petty charges... „	6,601	2	5				
Manifest and Trade Returns:—							
Salary, &c ...Rs. 2,700 13 7							
Printing ... „ 2,571 12 0							
„	5,272	9	7				
Commission charged by Treasurers „	281	8	0				
Balance ... ... „	2,074	10	4				
Total...Rupees	30,505	4	10	Balance in hands of Treasurers 1st September ...Rs.	2,074	10	4
				Since paid in ... ... „	1,508	0	0
				Rupees	3,582	10	4

LIST of PAMPHLETS and PAPERS received by the Chamber of Commerce during the Year 1864-65.

No.	Titles.	Received from
1	Proceedings of the Council of the Governor of Bombay (in separate volume)	Bombay Government.
2	New Zealand, Statiatics Report of (in separate volume) ...	New Zealand Government.
3	Customs' Annual Report (ditto)	Commissioner.
4	Scinde, External Trade Report for 1864-65 (ditto) ...	Government.
5	Dharwar, Report on the Restoration of pure American Seed to	Cotton Commissioner.
6	Ditto ditto Distribution of Cotton Seed ...	Bombay Government.
7	Report by the Inspector in Chief Cotton Department on Cotton Seed	Ditto.
8	North-Western Provinces, Report on the state and projects of the Cotton Crop in the	Board of Revenue N. W. P.
9	Memorandum on the effect of the rise in Cotton upon the Manufactured Article	Government of India.
10	Report on the working of the Cotton Frauds Act during the past year	Bombay Government.
11	British Indian Association, Reports of	Association.
12	Ditto ditto ditto on the Rural Police in Lower Bengal	Ditto.

13	Ditto ditto Petition on "Bill to amend the Procedure of Her Majesty's High Courts of Judicature in the exercise of their Original Criminal Jurisdiction" ...	Ditto.
	Great Indian Peninsula Railway Companies, Reports viz.,	
14	Reports by the Special Commissioner Railway Department to the Government of Bombay	G. I. P. Railway.
15	Report of the Director's of the G. I. P. Railway. ...	
16	Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company's, Report on the Survey of the line from Baroda to Neemuch ...	B. B. and C. I. Railway.
17	Indo-European Telegraph Tariff of Charges (in 2 vols.) Rules on the	E. Telegraph Department.
18	Government do do do (Mekran Coast and submarine Telegraph, Rules on the	H. J. Walton, Esq.
19	Colaba Observatory, Report on the	Bombay Government.
20	Irrigation in the Zerla Vally, Report on the	Ditto.
21	Cost of working the several Branches of Railway Traffic ...	Ditto.
22	Agri-Horticultural Society of Western India, Report on the ...	Ditto.
23	System of Periodical Measurments of Irrigated Lands, Papers, relating to the	Ditto.
24	Municipality of Bombay, Report on the	President of the Municipal Comrs.
25	Nagpoor, Prize List of the Agricultural show at	Nagpore Central Exhibition Comte.
26	Administration of the N. W. Provinces for 1863-64, Report on the	Government of N. W. P.
27	Ditto. Madras Presidency for 1863-64, Report of the ...	Bombay Ditto.
28	Agricultural and Horticultural Societys' Journals, on the ...	Agricultural & Horticultural Society.
29	Docks and Dockyards for Bombay, Paper laid before the Governor of Bombay...	Bombay Government.
30	Fire-Proof Railway Vans and Cases, by Daniel West, C. E. ...	Daniel West, C. E.

No.	Titles.	Received from
31	Petition to His Excellency the Governor in Council by the Piece good Merchants of Bombay	Piece Goods Merchants of Bombay.
32	Coolie Emigration, letters on	Author.
33	Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of ...	Calcutta.
34	Madras Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of ...	Madras.
35	Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of ...	Liverpool.
36	Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of ...	Manchester.
37	South Australian Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of ...	South Australia.
38	Kurrachee Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of ...	Kurrachee.
39	Melbourne Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of ...	Melbourne.
40	Manchester Cotton Supply Association, Annual Report of ...	Manchester Cotton Supply Association.
41	Bombay Seamen's Friend Association, Annual Report of ...	Bombay S. F. Association.
42	Marseilles Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of ...	Marseillies.

PEARSE & SORABJEE, Printers, DAILY POST, 16, Borah Bazar, Fort, Bombay.

00133535

Digitized with financial assistance from
Government of Maharashtra
on 01 February, 2020